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Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

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# Gold Mantis, US Labor said to have reached agreement

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A construction contractor that is building the casino in Garapan has reportedly reached an agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor regarding the unpaid wages of construction workers after U.S. Labor and company representatives visited the workers' barracks in the early hours of Tuesday.

According to sources familiar with the matter, three individuals—two representing the U.S. Labor Department and another claiming to be a lawyer for Gold Mantis Construction Decoration (CNMI), LLC—visited the barracks of

See GOLD on Page 4

## NMI homeless: 672

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kbautista1222@gmail.com
REPORTER

Being homeless doesn't only mean the lack of a roof over one's head. It also includes those who've been forced to seek shelter, such as in havens for domestic violence victims, and those who live within homes that are unfit for human habitation.

By this definition, the CNMI has a dismaying number of homeless. Based on the latest tally of the Homeless Coalition, which it did in April, there are 672 individuals on Saipan that are homeless.

The coalition conducted the is-

See NMI on Page 4

This structure in Chalan Kanoa houses a couple of homeless individuals. The structure has no doors, no windows, a tin roof, and only a cement floor to sleep on.
KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

## Citing sensitive information, protective order sought

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley sought Tuesday a protective order in the case against MCC International project manager Yuqing Zhao.

Assistant U.S. attorney James J. Benedetto also filed a motion for a protective order in the case against Beilida Overseas president Hui Lu and Beilida's Wencai Guo, Xiufang Qi, and Hongwei Ma.

O'Malley and Benedetto said the

See CITING on Page 4

## Marpi robbers strike again

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Robbers are becoming more brazen, this time blocking a car driven by two Asian tourists with their own car near Grotto and grabbing a purse and bag containing $1,500 cash and other items.

» Tourists fall prey to 3 robberies in 3 weeks

No one was injured in the robbery staged by three unidentified men on Monday night.

The incident is the third reported robbery case in Marpi in three weeks. All victims are tourists and women except

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A Filipino senator defended the human rights record of President Rodrigo Duterte.
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The pedophile could see people banging on his door. Were they neighbors? Cops?
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Visitors to the new Pandora-World of Avatar land are in for a cinematic experience.
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# Local

## Arriving passengers get free airport WiFi

IT&E recently installed free WiFi for all arriving passengers at the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport. This new service is in addition to the free internet services already provided at the departure gate for domestic flights.

IT&E general manager Rose Soledad said the project is a collaboration with the Commonwealth Ports Authority, in partnership with the Marianas Visitors Authority.

"Our arrival terminal is the first gateway in the tourist experience in the CNMI and with the support of the Commonwealth Ports Authority, we've installed high-speed internet for arriving passengers of domestic and international flights to use when they disembark and before they reach Customs," she said.

Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Chris Tenorio said that many arriving passengers use the free WiFi with ease.

"On behalf of the CPA board and management, we thank IT&E for the free wireless internet that is available for passengers to use. We've received great feedback and see that this service is a great addition to our facilities," Tenorio said.

Sales and Marketing manager Hans Mickelson added that several international flights could easily avail of the free internet during their arrival and will continue to have internet access at the baggage claim area.

"Free airport WiFi is just an initial step to increasing network capacity and services to better serve tourism as well as the community. Airports across the world, and especially in Asia, provide these services free of charge and we've provided our internet services as a courtesy for travelers during the early morning hours. Travelers will have quicker access to the internet for the latest news, or even social media to get their vacation started on a positive note," he said. ***(IT&E)***

Fourth from left, airport manager Ed Mendiola, sales and marketing manager Hans Mickelson, and CPA executive director Chris Tenorio, along with CPA staff, pose to celebrate the launch of IT&E's free airport WiFi for arriving passengers.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Nominees sought for Health Care Hero

**BARRIGADA, Guam**— *Guam Business Magazine* is accepting nominations for its first-ever feature on the region's "Health Care Heroes."

Nominees can be medical or dental practitioners, entrepreneurs, administrators or volunteers; auxiliary health care providers; or health care–related centers or organizations that demonstrably support the advancement and improvement of health care services in our islands.

Those selected as Health Care Heroes will be featured in the July-August issue of *Guam Business Magazine*, though all submissions will receive coverage.

Nominations are due Wednesday, May 10, to managingeditor@glimpsesofguam.com and should include the following:

- Nominee's name
- Nominee's title/area of practice
- Nominee's organization, clinic or hospital
- What makes this person or organization a Health Care Hero?
- Contact information for the nominee
- Contact information for the nominee's business/organization ***(PR)***


CNMI NPW national prevention week

MAKING EACH DAY COUNT

2017

May 15-19, 2017

**Join the CHCC's Community Guidance Center in educating CNMI on healthy living and the power of PREVENTION to help prevent substance abuse and mental health disorders!**

MAY 15 ROTA — NPW ISA FUN RUN & POSTER CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT

MAY 16 SAIPAN — POSTER CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT

MAY 17 TINIAN — NPW ISA FUN RUN & POSTER CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT

MAY 18 SAIPAN — SPIRIT WEEK SCHOOL VISIT & RADIO TALK SHOW

MAY 19 SAIPAN — NPW PAJAMA FUN RUN & ROADSIDE WAVING

**SAIPAN, ROTA, & TINIAN**

**POSTER CONTEST**
**(Grade School & Middle School Students)**

- Due on May 10, 2017 at 4:30 PM
- Use 11" x 17" poster (If needed, pick-up at Prevention Offices)
- Any Art Medium (No print, digital artwork, & photography)
- Prizes includes Art supplies, featured on 2018 NPW Calendar, and more!

**SPIRIT WEEK (High School Students)**

- May 15, 2017 (Monday) through May 18, 2017 (Thursday)
- First 10 students that follow the theme will get a prize!

**THEMES:**

- **Monday, May 2017** – Too Smart To Do Tobacco: Wear your class shirt or color.
- **Tuesday, May 16, 2017** – Team Up Against Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs: Hats and Sports Day.
- **Wednesday, May 17, 2017** – Prescription Drugs Misuse: Super Hero Day Dress up like your favorite superhero.
- **Thursday, May 18, 2017** – Marijuana Prevention: Twinsie Day (Slogan: A friend in deed, won't make you smoke that weed.) Dress up like your friend who has a positive influence in your life.

**CNMI NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK**
**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**SAIPAN:** Charnessa "Chenny" Lizama
npwcnmi@gmail.com (670) 323-6560

**TINIAN:** Keith Nabors
tiniantyphoon@hotmail.com (670) 433-6572

**ROTA:** Benedicta San Nicolas
benedicta.sannicolas@gmail.com
(670) 532-9461

*This advertisement is made possible by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration with CHCC: Community Guidance Center - Substance Abuse Prevention Services Unit.*

CGC-Prevention Services Unit cgc_prevention cgc_prevention

# NMI yet to reap benefits of marine monument

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is encouraging the community to submit their comments to the U.S. Department of the Interior, which is soliciting remarks from the public regarding national monuments that were designated under Public Law 59-209 or the act for the preservation of American antiquities.

Interior initiated the review of areas designated as national monuments—one of which is the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument—after President Donald Trump signed an executive order that would study the often controversial move made by past presidents using the Antiquities Act of 1906.

Torres said the public should read the speeches made by those who competed in Friday's 33rd Annual Attorney General's Cup speech competition where the topic concerns federal authority in administering local resources, and then submit their comments.

"I encourage the community to read the AG's Cup speeches by our students and provide comments of their own regarding the monument to DOI," said Torres.

Competitors prepared a speech on the balance of power between the U.S. federal government and the CNMI, and whether the feds had infringed on the Commonwealth's sovereignty.

"In the same spirit, my administration is keenly aware that the people of the CNMI were promised great things during the discussions surrounding the designation of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument, but to this day, we have seen none of those benefits materialize."

His administration would soon submit its position to Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke. Comments can be submitted online at http://www.regulations.gov beginning after May 12 and must be sent within 60 days.

"We intend to provide our input in response to Secretary Zinke and President Trump's call for local dialogue," said Torres. " [We] fully support the President's decision to review these designations to ensure they uphold their original intentions and provide benefits to the people."

He said the federal government must assess its every move when it comes to natural resources that are directly or indirectly under its jurisdiction.

"It is important that we balance the desires of the federal government with the protection of our people's traditional fishing practices and potential uses, holding to our commitment to the environmental protection of our unique resources in our waters," said Torres.

The Marianas Trench Marine Monument, created in 2009 by President George W. Bush, covers an area of 60,938240 acres or 95,216 square miles. Submerged lands and waters of the Marianas—the CNMI and Guam—are included in the three units of the national monument.

The waters and submerged lands of three of the CNMI's northernmost islands—Asuncion, Farallon de Pajaros or Uracas, and Maug—are included in the designated protected area along with 21 volcanic sites, and the northern limit of the Commonwealth's exclusive economic zone to Guam's southern limit.

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MARIANA OCEAN

# Ex-cop responsible for burglaries at 2 restaurants

Former police officer Gordon Odoshi Seman pleaded guilty yesterday to two burglaries in two restaurants in western Garapan.

Seman, 35, pleaded guilty to two counts of burglary as part of a plea deal. He will be sentenced on Nov. 28, 2017. He was represented by assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit. Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government.

Seman was charged with burglary and theft for breaking into Coco's Restaurant on Dec. 7, 2016 where he stole an Olympus camera pen lite E-PLS double zoom kit, Olympus Fisheye converter, SD memory card, battery pack, camera bag, five lobsters, several liquor and sodas, $15 in cash, and a trash box.

Seman also broke into Avenue Restaurant on Dec. 11, 2016, where he stole an HP computer, kitchen dishes, food, clothing, jewelry, Gucci bag, four Coach purses, and several liquor and alcohol.

In July 2011, Seman, who was then a rookie police officer, pleaded guilty to assault and battery when he beat up his wife while drunk outside their house in Dandan. Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo sentenced him to 12 days of prison term, with credit of 12 days of time served. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

## GOLD

*From Page 1*

the illegal Chinese workers at about 1:30am last Tuesday regarding the settlement of the workers' unpaid wages.

Gold Mantis workers have reportedly not been receiving their pay since early 2017. Gold Mantis has also reportedly called for the temporary suspension of the workers due to the ongoing federal investigation into the harboring of illegal aliens. Gold Mantis is the same company responsible for Beijing's engineering masterpiece called "Bird's Nest," which also served as the stadium for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

The three individuals that visited the workers' barracks last Tuesday reportedly offered the construction workers a down payment of $1,600 each upon leaving Saipan. The workers were also promised a single payment of $10,000 to $20,000, depending on how long they've been working for Gold Mantis, to be deposited directly into their Chinese bank accounts. The gross payment per worker would also be subject to local tax deductions.

The three had with them transportation to bring the workers to the Saipan airport and tickets for the next flight headed to China—an offer the workers refused.

Sources told *Saipan Tribune* that the workers declined the offer because they doubted Gold Mantis' word about the payments. The workers reportedly refused to leave Saipan without confirmation from their family members back in China that the money has been deposited in full in their bank accounts. Reportedly, once the workers receive their payments in full, they would leave Saipan as soon as possible.

The workers also reportedly mentioned that most of their demands during the protests had been met; the workers ultimately accepted the offer of Gold Mantis.

The demands of the workers include having their employer, Gold Mantis, pay them at a rate of $6.55 per hour as promised, have Gold Mantis return numerous expenses that were deducted from their payroll, have their wages paid when Gold Mantis informed them that they had to stop working since late February, have Gold Mantis provide them with a ticket home, and refund the $50 to $100 deducted for their uniforms.

Sources told *Saipan Tribune* that the lawyer representing Gold Mantis said the company was still working on the acquisition of the net amount for each worker so that they may be paid as soon as possible.

An earlier statement from a Gold Mantis representative named Robert Gemmill said that the company has been "providing and is continuing to provide humanitarian aid to as many as 91 individuals who we understand were, until recently, working on the Imperial Pacific hotel and casino project."

The statement claimed Gold Mantis has been working with both CNMI and U.S. government authorities as well as Karidat "with respect to the logistics of providing this humanitarian aid, which includes food, water, and lodging."

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, the company that hired Gold Mantis, said in its most recent statement that it "denounces in the strongest terms harboring of illegal workers by some of its contractors [and] subcontractors and will continue to work with authorities in the amicable resolution of issues."

It was earlier reported that another Imperial Pacific contractor, MCC International, was found harboring illegal aliens and failing to pay their wages.

An arrest warrant was issued last April 4, 2017, after a complaint charged MCC project manager Yuqing Zhao and MCC electrician Pei Ruan with the unlawful employment of aliens and bringing in and harboring certain aliens.

Representatives of Beilida Overseas (CNMI), another construction company that is allegedly involved with the same charge as MCC, were also arrested. Xiufang Qi and Wencai Guo of Beilida were stopped and arrested last April 5 at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport while the two were reportedly attempting to leave the CNMI.

As of publication, it was not specified by past protestors whether the workers have received their unpaid wages and the whereabouts of MCC officials have yet to be known.

## MARPI

*From Page 1*

for one.

In the latest case, the victims, ages 28 and 30 years old, lost their purse and bags containing $1,500 cash, one iPhone 7, and two passports, according to acting Department of Public Safety spokesman Sgt. Jason Tarkong.

The two suspects were described similarly—about 5'5" to 5'7" tall, dark-skinned, skinny, with a crew-cut hairstyle. One was armed with a knife. One suspect was wearing a blue shirt, while the other was wearing a purple or maroon shirt.

The third suspect was described only as being dark-skinned and having curly hair. No other distinguishing marks were given.

The suspects' vehicle was described as a silver/gray four-door sports utility vehicle with a dark tint.

Tarkong said the Marpi robbery occurred at 7pm; the victims reported the matter to police when they got back to their hotel. Tarkong said police responded at 8:15pm after receiving the call.

Police learned that the two tourists were sightseeing in Marpi and were driving their rental car from the Grotto dive spot when an SUV, driven by the robbers, followed them. The suspects' vehicle passed the tourists' car and blocked the road, causing the victims to stop their car.

The three suspects got down and surrounded the tourists' car. The first suspect, armed with a knife, demanded money from the tourists. The two other suspects grabbed the victim's purse and bags. The report did not indicate how many bags. The suspects then got back into their SUV and fled.

DPS and the NMI Crime Stoppers Program are seeking the public's help for information about the robbers.

Last April 28 in the afternoon, two men, including one armed with a knife, robbed a 24-year-old Asian woman and her boyfriend of cash and other items at the Last Command Post.

Last May 1, two men armed with a knife and rifle robbed five Asian female tourists at Banzai Cliff of $1,200 cash and other items. The victims arrived in the area to take pictures at 6:30am in two cars—a yellow Camaro and a pink Mustang.

The suspects fled aboard a red Toyota car.

As of yesterday, no one has been arrested in the three robbery cases.

## CITING

*From Page 1*

protective order would restrict the defendants' and their defense team's use and disclosure of any information that is given them.

The indictment charged Zhao with harboring illegal aliens. A separate indictment charged Beilida Overseas president Lu and Beilida's Guo, Qi, and Ma with harboring illegal aliens.

The charges were in connection with the alleged illegal Chinese workers at Imperial Pacific International CNMI LLC's ongoing construction of the casino and resort in Garapan.

O'Malley and Benedetto said that due to the nature of the case, the discovery includes documents and data that contain sensitive information, including personal identifying information such as Social Security number, passport numbers, and dates of birth, for numerous individuals.

O'Malley and Benedetto said the discovery also includes tax and bank account information and other sensitive information regarding individuals who are not charged in the indictments and whose relevance to this case is not yet known.

They said that manually searching and redacting the sensitive information for each and every document is time-consuming, burdensome, impractical, and subject to a high risk of error.

O'Malley and Benedetto said a protective order will allow the U.S. government to produce discovery with only minimal redactions, and will ensure that all parties are aware of their responsibilities in handling sensitive information.

According to the indictment, beginning on Aug. 1, 2016, and continuing until March 31, 2017, Zhao harbored 15 illegal aliens.

The separate indictment alleges that on March 8 through March 22, 2017, Lu, Guo, and Ma harbored an illegal alien, Yuanyou Hu, by shielding him from detection and which resulted in Hu's death.

Hu, a Chinese national, died after reportedly falling from a scaffold at the construction site of the Imperial Pacific casino and resort project last March 22.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation found out that Hu entered the CNMI as a tourist and was not authorized to work in the Commonwealth.

On Feb. 7 through March 22, 2017, Lu Guo, Qi, and Ma allegedly harbored six illegal aliens.

MCC International is the construction contractor for Imperial Pacific. Beilida Overseas is a subcontractor. The Garapan offices of the two companies were searched by the FBI last March 30.

## NMI

*From Page 1*

land's first official homeless count last April 8 as a prerequisite to apply for the continuum of care grant, a grant that the coalition will use in order to carry out projects to assist the island's homeless.

The coalition submitted its homeless count results last Friday, May 5, to the U.S. Housing and Urban Development as the first step in filing for the COC grant.

According to the statistics acquired from the coalition count, Saipan has 672 individuals who are homeless based on the U.S. Housing and Urban Development definition. The 672 homeless individuals translate to 257 homeless families in the Commonwealth.

This number includes individuals that are service-sheltered, individuals who live within homes that are unfit for human habitation, and people who are literally homeless.

According to the data, 24 people are living in service shelters provided by organizations in the Commonwealth. A total of 14 families were identified.

Sheltered and unsheltered homeless came in at 648 individuals. That included 243 families.

The coalition was unable to distinguish the exact number of literal homeless and the number of those who live in structures that are unfit for human habitation.

According to Homeless Coalition board member Jacob Muna, the submission of the homeless count gives the coalition the opportunity to avail of the COC grant.

If approved, the grant gives the coalition a sufficient amount of funds to carry out projects that are being proposed in order to help all the homeless scattered in the Commonwealth.

Many of the literal homeless included in the count were found sleeping along the private beaches of Saipan. Other literal homeless were from organizations that offer services like the Salvation Army NMI Chapter.

The at-risk homeless that live in substandard houses were found in abandoned structures in areas like Chalan Kanoa.

In Chalan Kanoa, a group of homeless individuals live in a structure that had been abandoned for years. The structure has no doors, no windows, no water, no plumbing, and no electricity. It only has a tin roof, cement walls, and a cement floor where the individuals slept on.

The individuals residing in that structure include two men and one woman. They hope that the count could possibly result in some sort of help.

"Hopefully the government will be able to help us in the way we live. We need help and we pray that the coalition will provide help for us," said the woman.

# Manglona bill seeks to break up CUC into two

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) is offering a bill that would break up the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., splitting the power and water systems into separate autonomous agencies.

Manglona's bill, House Bill 20-39, is expected to be introduced in today's Senate session at 1pm on Capital Hill.

Manglona, a four-time Senate president, believes that breaking up CUC into two independent departments is timely since the firm's customers as well as its number of employees have grown in more than 20 years.

Manglona proposes two separate public corporations controlling and managing each of the power and water service systems. An elected utilities board would oversee the two new public corporations.

CUC, since its inception, manages and controls the power, water, and wastewater systems in the Commonwealth. It is guided by an appointed board of directors and managed by an executive director.

"It is time to consider reorganizing the corporation by separating the power and water systems so that the power service is separately managed and controlled from the water service and the wastewater system," Manglona said.

He said the elected utilities board would be different from the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, which currently regulates the rates that CUC imposes. The CPUC currently has only one member and lacks a quorum.

CUC had been in the spotlight the last few months, especially after the board approved a controversial deal to purchase a power engine. This resulted in oversight hearings conducted by the House of Representatives and the Senate.

The House Public Utilities and Communications Committee, chaired by Rep. Francisco S. Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), recommends that the board either resign or for Gov. Ralph DLG Torres to fire them all, except for David Sablan.

Its Senate counterpart—the Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications Committee—has yet to release its report. Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) is the Senate PUTC committee chair.

Manglona said that having the CUC board elected is for the best interest of the public. The elected board would have the authority over the two public corporations and would have the same powers exercised by the appointed ones.

Having a municipal corporation was one of the three recommendations of the Office of the Public Auditor in its report early this month. A cooperative and privatization were the other two options.

The municipal corporation is somehow similar to CUC's current structure and it allows for the direct election of its members, who would then hire the executive director that would manage the organization.

"This model ensures independence, reduces external influences, and encourages nonpolitical management decisions. Publicly elected board members are the choice of their communities and will carry out their constituents' ideas," said Manglona.

"If board members do not perform their duties and responsibilities properly, they lose their seats and the community chooses someone else it trusts. Elections provide a direct accountability to the public."

He added the current practice of appointing people to the CUC board takes away the people's voice in the selection process and even their ability to directly make an impact in the management and control of the utility services they avail of.

# NMC Career Fair: Biggest in recent years

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College 2017 Career Fair held last April 27 was easily the largest career fair the lone community college of the CNMI conducted since 2011, as reported by representatives of the college.

The NMC Career Fair was attended by 400 participants and over 50 employers such as Joeten Enterprises, Triple J Corp., Pacifica Insurance Inc., Saipan World Resort, Mariana Resort & Spa, and numerous newcomers such as the 500 Sails organization, to name a few. Also present at the career fair were government agencies such as the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

According to NMC career manager Neda C. Deleon Guerrero, hotel industry companies, private businesses, and government agencies have always participated in the NMC Career Fair.

"It's been growing. We used to have 13 agencies come out for a career fair. Today, we have over 50 companies that participated in the event," said Deleon Guerrero.

Deleon Guerrero said that back in 2011, the NMC Career Fair was held in room D1 of the college. It used to be open only for NMC students and graduates; this time, they opened it to the public.

"We've had career fairs but our focus used to be our NMC students and graduates. This year, we wanted to also share this opportunity to the island community, so we opened it to the public. We want all our NMC graduates to be placed in jobs," said Deleon Guerrero.

According to Deleon Guerrero, 13 workshops led up to the career fair to make sure "everybody is prepared and gets hired."

"We hope that our island community in general is successful," she said.

NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez shared the same sentiments.

"We've never had a turnout like this before. I hope that everyone here gets a job. We have all these different companies participating," she said.

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# (AMENDED)
# Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda

**Wednesday, May 17, 2017**
**5:00 PM, Multipurpose Center, Susupe**
**Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • www.zoning.gov.mp**

**A. Preliminary Matters**
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Public Comments *(not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)*

**B. Public Hearings:**
1. **Conditional Use Application #2017-1291:** Skywalker Holdings Company, LLC dba Skywalker Holdings Staff Housing is proposing to construct and assemble 3 (three) Pre-Fabricated structures for Institutional Residential Use. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. (Part of) EA 222-1 in Papago. It is zoned as Rural.
2. **Rezone Application #2017-1464:** Fermina G. Shimizu is requesting to rezone Lot No. 1734NEW-4-R2 in Chalan Kiya from "Rural" to "Mixed Commercial" zoning district to construct and operate a warehouse facility.
3. **Conditional Use Application #2017-1547:** Yong Shun Corporation dba Chang Ming Car Wash is proposing to operate a car wash facility. This use is classified as "Vehicle Repair, General" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 004 D 54 in Garapan. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.
4. **Conditional Use Application #2017-1568:** Unity Sense (CNMI), LLC dba Heaven II Hotel is proposing to occupy four existing structures to operate a hotel. This use is classified as "Hotel" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Tract No. 22667-2-R1 in Capitol Hill. This area is zoned as Rural.
5. **Conditional Use Application #2017-1686:** Seatimes Company Ltd. is proposing to occupy two existing buildings to operate a Bed and Breakfast. This use is classified as "Bed and Breakfast" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 128 D 24 in Garapan. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

**C. Communication**

**D. Old Business**

**E. New Business**
1. Operations Reports (Permitting & Enforcement)

**F. Executive (Closed) Session**

**G. Miscellaneous**
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

**H. Adjourn**

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PMB 133 BOX 10000 SAIPAN, MP 96950

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**PROJECT MANAGER**
Openings: 30 Salary Range: $10.00 - $15.00 Hourly
Qualification Requirements: Bachelor's degree in Construction Management or related field. Minimum 3-4 years of experience in the construction industry. Must have an understanding of residential and commercial construction processes. Hands-on field experience required. Strong problem solving skills. Strong interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to effectively function in a team environment. Excellent time management skills and the ability to work on multiple projects. Excellent computer skills. Must be proficient in Microsoft Excel, Word and Project. Strong negotiation skills.

**INSPECTION TEAM LEADER**
Openings: 10 Salary Range: $10.00 - $12.00 Hourly
Qualification Requirements: Associate Degree or higher. 2-3 years' experience. Extensive experience as a inspection team leader to include assisting to oversee daily operations, supervise workers on the job site, verify all correspondence with vendors and contractors, and leadership qualities in a construction environment. Knowledge of CNMI/U.S. OSHA regulations and other related certificates. Must be able to communicate in written and verbal English.

**PROJECT TIME KEEPER**
Openings: 10 Salary Range: $6.55 - $10.00 Hourly
Qualification Requirements: 1 year experience in a timekeeping or other field operational position. High school diploma/GED.

**FACADE TECHNICIAN**
Openings: 50 Salary Range: $6.55 - $10.00 Hourly
Qualification Requirements: 1-2 years relevant working experience as facade design installer. Capable of installing glass and aluminum works as per plan and specifications required by architect and project manager. Knowledgeable on safety procedures and safety guidelines and regulations in work area. Has previous experience as Glass Installer for high rise building. Knowledgeable on proper glass installation procedures for (unitize system and structural system), doors, windows, skylight and composite panels installation. Be comfortable working at heights and in all weather conditions. This is a physically demanding role. There will be working off scaffolding, towers and ladders and heavy lifting involved frequently.

**MASON WORKER**
Openings: 200 Salary Range: $6.55 - $10.00 Hourly
Qualification Requirements: High school diploma or equivalent apprenticeship, related on the job experience. Minimum of 1 year working experiences as a mason worker. Possess of relevant skill, policies, procedures, and strategies to promote effective local, state, or national decoration operations for the benefits of people and property. Knowledge of relevant equipment for decoration work, including use, connection, and wiring. Ability to follow engineering instructions and diagram, rules and regulations. Ability to read and understand precision technical plans, blueprints, drawings, and models. Willing to follow instructions and orders from superiors; Willing to work closely with other colleagues. Must have a good team work spirits. Must be physically fit and able to work in shifts.

**PAINTER**
Openings: 100 Salary Range: $6.55 - $10.00 Hourly
Qualification Requirements: 1 year experience in the field required. Ability to do the work of a painter without more than normal supervision (Screen-Out Element). Knowledge of equipment assembly, installation and repair. Technical practices (theoretical, precise, artistic) and troubleshooting. Ability to interpret instructions, specification, etc. (including reading blueprints). Ability to use and maintain tools and equipment. Knowledge of materials.

**AM GROUP, LLC is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider**

# Amata Radewagen visits the CNMI

The Republican Party of the Northern Mariana Islands hailed the visit of Delegate Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen (R-American Samoa) this weekend as a gesture of her commitment to being a true friend and partner of the Commonwealth.

Radewagen arrived at 3:30am on Saturday. She proceeded directly to the Hopwood Middle School grounds and visited with friends and community members at the annual Marianas March Against Cancer.

On Sunday, Radewagen held a gathering at the Pacific Islands Club with family, friends and members of the CNMI Republican Party.

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres, the titular head of the CNMI Republican Party, expressed appreciation for Radewagen's visit to the CNMI.

"Although she represents American Samoa in the U.S. Congress, [Radewagen] has personal ties to the CNMI and we are grateful that she holds a special place in her heart for our people and our islands," said Torres.

He said he had the opportunity to meet with Radewagen on several occasions "and I must say that I am greatly comforted knowing that we have an ally in the lone Republican member of Congress from the territories in the Pacific.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Rep. Ivan Blanco, Senate President Arnold Palacios, Rep. Jose Itibus, Rep. Alice Igitol, Delegate Aumua Amata Radewagen, first lady Diann Torres, Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres, and Reps. Angel Demapan, Frank Aguon and Joseph Deleon Guerrero. Back, rom left, Rep. Greg Sablan, Sen. Jude Hofschneider, and Rep. Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres and Delegate Aumua Amata Radewagen.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CNMI Republican Party first vice president Felicidad Ogumoro, CNMI RNC Committeeman Diego Benavente, Delegate Aumua Amata Radewagen, Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres, and CNMI Republican Party president James Ada.

"As a key member of the Committees on Natural Resources, Veterans' Affairs, and Small Business, there are so many key areas of concern that [Radewagen] can help us address," said Torres. "Having completed our Section 902 negotiations last year, Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) and Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), who both served as members of the 902 panel, are looking to work with [Radewagen] to push key points of the recommendations included in the 902 report."

Palacios and Demapan have been vocal on federal issues surrounding the CNMI's workforce needs, military proposals, and environmental and cultural impacts to marine resources as a result of restrictive federal policies.

They both hailed President Trump's recent executive order directing the Department of the Interior to review all national marine monument designations to ensure that the concerns of local communities are addressed and considered. Radewagen has also taken the same position and, along with Torres, had pushed the Trump administration to order a review of such designations.

"As we know, Republicans hold control of the White House and both the U.S. House and Senate, so we believe that with our Republican administration and the Republican-controlled Commonwealth legislature, we are in a position to work closely with [Radewagen] to help advance legislation and initiatives that are crucial to the livelihood of our people. While we continue to see an uptick in our economy, there's still much work ahead of us to sustain the momentum. And with [Radewagen's] support, our Republican leadership have a strong partner to work with on the national level," said James A. Ada, president of the CNMI GOP.

"On behalf of the CNMI Republican Party, I want to thank [Radewagen] for keeping the CNMI dear to her and for being a strong champion not just for American Samoans, but for all of us from the insular areas," added Ada. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, CNMI Republican Party 2nd vice president Vincent Torres, treasurer Rufin Inos, first vice president Felicidad Ogumoro, secretary Glenna SP Reyes, Delegate Amata Radewagen, Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres, adviser Pete P. Reyes, and CNMI Republican Party president James Ada.

# Grilled cheese sandwich contest raises over $1,200

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kbautista1222@gmail.com
REPORTER

A grilled cheese sandwich competition raised over $1,200 that will be donated to the Salvation Army NMI Chapter to carry out the organization's feeding programs.

The "Sammich" competition hosted by the Salvation Army NMI Chapter advisory board member Shelly Scott raised $1,253, with expenses deducted.

Scott said that only $200 was deducted for expenses. This was made possible because of all the donations of sponsors.

One of the Salvation Army's means of receiving funds is through the annual grilled cheese competition. Scott introduced the idea two years ago.

According to Scott, this year's competition is the third time she's been organizing the event.

The competition consisted of teams of voluntary chefs who whipped up unique grilled cheese sandwiches that were tasted by registered participants, who paid a fee to enter the competition as judges. The fee was at $20 per person and it provided participants two drinks and unlimited tomato soup, according to Scott.

A trained chef from the Hyatt Regency Saipan and from Imperial Pacific International, LLC shared their unique variations on the grilled cheese sandwich.

A volunteer chef from the Hyatt Regency Saipan, Niwayan Aldan, joined the competition for the first time this year. She heard about the event from her employer.

According to Aldan, she will certainly join future competitions.

Other voluntary chefs included a team of sisters, a husband and wife who are both experienced chefs, and a mother-and-daughter team.

For the blind tasting category, Team Cheeses of Nazareth took first place. The cooks were Kate Fuller and Sam Crawford and their winning sandwich was named Soul Food.

Second place for the blind tasting category was awarded to Team "The Trolley" and the chef was Amber Weston. The winning sandwich was called Bacon Hallelujah.

Third place went to Team Justice. The chefs were Greg and Mel Borja and their winning sandwich was Sour Power.

In the Purist category, first place was awarded to Team Cheese Heads. The cooks were Matt and Lauren Benson and their winning sandwich was "Too Gouda for You."

Second place went to team Niany's Nibble. The cooks were Leila Staffler and her daughter and their winning sandwich was "Green Flash."

For the Suhweet category, first place went to Team Partini's Paninis. The cook was Niwayan Aldan.

Second place was awarded to Team Stache Sisters and the cooks were Laila Boyer and Farah Younis.

For the Whodathunkit category, first place was awarded to The Trolley, second was awarded to the Cheeses of Nazareth, and third was awarded to the Imperial Pacific Team.

IT&E
Life In Motion

**IT&E SUMMER WORK PROGRAM**

**Learn about the telecommunications industry and get paid!**
Never worked at a company before? Here's your chance to gain experience! The IT&E Summer Work Program will give up to 10 students who may never have held a paying job before, a unique opportunity to gain insight and knowledge about the telecommunications industry in business and operational areas such as Networking, Resources. Students learn about the operations of the Company and how they can be a part of it by observation of the work environment, interaction with employees, and hands-on training.

**REQUIREMENTS:**
- At least 16 years old
- Most recent official school transcript with an overall minimum 3.5 GPA submitted in a sealed envelope
- Recommendation, preferably from a prior instructor, advisor, dean, or principal
- Legally authorized to work in the CNMI
- Computer experience using Microsoft Applications

Some positions may also require a valid driver's license.

To apply, students must complete an IT&E application and submit it, along with the other required documents noted above, to the IT&E Human Resource office, located at the IT&E Susupe Headquarters no later than May 15, 2017. **All inquiries must be made by the student and not the parent at 234-6600.**

This program will run from June 5 to August 4, 2017.

**As an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer, we afford equal opportunity to all applicants and employees for hire and promotion without regard to race, color, origin, sex, gender identity, age, marital status, religion, veteran status, or disability or genetic information**
**We are also a Drug Free Workplace**

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Weightlifting Federation meeting set

The CNMI Weightlifting Federation will hold a meeting on Saturday, May 13, starting at 1pm at the NMPASI conference room. All weightlifters and persons interested in supporting the sport of weightlifting in the CNMI are invited. We will be discussing upcoming competitions and fundraising. ***(PR)***

### Training in Agat Bay

**ASAN, Guam**—Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 will conduct training in the vicinity of Agat Bay May 9 from 4pm to 6pm. Aircraft will fly over Agat Bay, between Orote Point and Agat, about two miles from the shore at an altitude of 500 feet. The helicopters will conduct training with a small Navy boat. This notice is to inform residents in surrounding areas of this training activity. ***(PR)***

### Tourism Month graphic art design contest

The Marianas Visitors Authority and Marianas Tourism Education Council are holding a Tourism Month 2017 Graphic Arts Design Contest for CNMI students in grades 6-12. Submissions must be an original digital design with the words "See My Marianas" featuring a site/location in the Marianas that the artist would encourage people to visit. The deadline to submit entries is May 12, 2017. Prizes begin at $150 cash plus $150 Taste of the Marianas tokens for first place. The deadline to submit entries is May 12, 2017. For contest guidelines, visit www.mymaianas.com. ***(MVA)***

### Notice to Prior Service Trust Fund beneficiaries

This notice applies to the Prior Service Trust Fund beneficiaries who are having their monthly benefit checks directly deposited to their account at Bank of Guam. Effective June 1, 2017, Bank of Guam will no longer perform this service for you. In the interim, until PSTF can establish an automatic deposit clearing, PSTF will be mailing your benefit check to your mailing address on file. Contact the PSTF Administration Office at telephone number 322-9753 to confirm your current mailing address by June 1, 2017. The PSTF office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8am to noon and from 1pm to 5pm. ***(PR)***

### *Storyboard 16* to Launch May 12

**MANGILAO, Guam**—The 16th issue of the University of Guam's literary journal *Storyboard* features a wonderful collection of poetry, prose and visual art exploring the unique identity, culture and history of the people of Guam and the greater Micronesian region. The University of Guam Press and the UOG Division of English and Applied Linguistics will launch the journal on Friday, May 12, from 6m to 7:30pm in the atrium of the UOG English and Communications building.

An editorial board of UOG faculty members reviewed 143 submissions and selected 25 pieces. Many of the writers and artists featured in *Storyboard 16* will be present at the launch to share and discuss their work. The current and past issues of *Storyboard* will also be available for sale. ***(PR)***

### VA benefits counselor visiting Saipan

The U.S. Department of Veterans benefits administration will be visiting Saipan. A VA benefits counselor will be at the Saipan VA Outreach Clinic on May 24, 2017, from 9:30am to 3:30pm to answer benefits questions, and assist with the claim process. The Saipan VA Outreach Clinic is located at the MH II Bldg., Suite 206, Marina Heights Business Park in Garapan. To request an appointment, contact Ruth Coleman at 322-0035. ***(PR)***

### NMC extends deadline to obtain a Charter Day booth

Northern Marianas College is inviting vendors to take part in the college's 36th annual Charter Day celebration on Friday, May 12, 2017. The deadline to submit booth applications as been extended to today, May 10, 2017. Booth applications forms must be submitted by Friday, May 10, 2017, by 4pm. Note, however, that booth spaces are limited so applications should be submitted as soon as possible. The booth fee is $150 for all commercial vendors but for student clubs and nonprofit organizations, booth fees are $75. Applications forms are available for download at www.marianas.edu, or can be picked up from the NMC CDI Office. ***(NMC)***

How's Your Hearing?

*Specializing in:*

- Hearing Evaluations
- Custom fitted hearing aids
- Digital and ProgrammableTechnology
- Custom Communication Devices

- Wednesday, May 17th 8:30am - 4:00pm
- Thursday, May 18th 8:30am - 4:00pm

*at Marianas Medical Center in Garapan*

Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
*Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences*
Email: rosshearingaids@yahoo.com

Ross Hearing Aids

All interested patients should call Marianas Medical Clinic for scheduling
234-3925/7
Insurance accepted: AETNA and Medicaid

# 4 countries to take part in NMI, Guam exercise

**ASAN, Guam**—U.S. Marine Corps and multinational forces of Japan, France, and the United Kingdom will participate in Jeanne D'Arc Multinational Exercise from May 11 to May 18 in Guam and on Tinian, and in the surrounding waters.

Jeanne D'Arc is a French-led exercise aimed at strengthening strategic partnerships and exercising freedom of navigation operations across the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. The goal of Jeanne D'Arc is to facilitate interaction between militaries, which enhances combined readiness in response to crises and disaster throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

Elements from the Third Marine Expeditionary Force will join amphibious forces aboard the French Navy amphibious assault ship FS *Mistral* and La Fayette-class frigate FS *Courbet*.

Forces from Japan and the United Kingdom will also participate to enhance multilateral military relations, solidify regional security agreements, and improve individual and unit-level skills.

In Guam, the exercise will begin May 12. On Tinian, some troops will arrive at San Jose Harbor and transit north on Broadway starting May 15.

Forces participating include approximately 90 U.S. Marines attached to III MEF and smaller units of Japanese and French forces. Two British helicopters will also be involved in the ground portions of the exercise. ***(PR)***

# Cooking demos, plant giveaways, aquaculture show at Charter Day

Northern Marianas College's Charter Day festivities on Friday will not only showcase live entertainment and vendors offering delicious foods. The event will also feature cooking demonstrations, plant giveaways, an aquaculture exhibit, as well as interactive activities for children hosted by the staff members of NMC's Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Service Program.

"For the past few weeks, the staff members at CREES have been preparing for this Friday's celebration," said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez. "They are excited to engage community members of all ages about their programs and services."

The CREES booth at Charter Day will be hosting a number of food and cooking demonstrations that promote nutrition and healthy lifestyles. The CREES agricultural program will be handing out hundreds of seedlings for various crops that CREES has been cultivating at its As Perdido Agriculture Station.

Moreover, the aquaculture program at CREES will be providing information about its fish stocks and aquaculture research services.

The Family, Community, Development, and Youth program will be hosting interactive activities for children.

The Charter Day celebration will be held from 4pm to 10pm this Friday, May 12, 2017, at NMC's south field.

"We are inviting everyone to join us in As Terlaje for our annual Charter Day celebration on Friday," said Fernandez. "There will be lively entertainment from students and community members, fun competitions, and other activities for the entire family."

This Friday's celebration will include the "PROA FACTOR" talent competition. More information about the event can be found at marianas.edu or email nmc@marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

## NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

**for**

**P&A Corporation**

CANCELLED

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. P&A Corporation is proposing to renovate an existing building for guest rooms, and to construct a new structure for storage use to store supplies. This use is classified as "Motel" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot Nos. 550-New-15 & 550-New-16 in San Antonio. It is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

**Date:** May 17, 2017
**Time:** 5:00 pm
**Place:** Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 16, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

*/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman*

## NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

**for**

**Unity Sense (CNMI), LLC dba Heaven II Hotel**

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Unity Sense (CNMI), LLC dba Heaven II Hotel is proposing to occupy four existing structures to operate a hotel. This use is classified as "Hotel" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Tract No. 22667-2-R1 in Capitol Hill. This area is zoned as Rural.

**Date:** May 17, 2017
**Time:** 5:00 pm
**Place:** Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 16, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

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*/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman*

## NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

**for**

**Yong Shun Corporation dba Chang Ming Car Wash**

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Yong Shun Corporation dba Chang Ming Car Wash is proposing to operate a car wash facility. This use is classified as "Vehicle Repair, General" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 004 D 54 in Garapan. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

**Date:** May 17, 2017
**Time:** 5:00 pm
**Place:** Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 16, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

*/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman*

## NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

**for**

**Skywalker Holdings Company, LLC dba Skywalker Holdings Staff Housing**

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Skywalker Holdings Company, LLC dba Skywalker Holdings Staff Housing is proposing to construct and assemble 3 (three) Pre-Fabricated structures for Institutional Residential Use. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. (Part of) EA 222-1 in Papago. It is zoned as Rural.

**Date:** May 17, 2017
**Time:** 5:00 pm
**Place:** Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 16, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

*/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman*

## NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

**for**

**Seatimes Company Ltd.**

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Seatimes Company Ltd. is proposing to occupy two existing buildings to operate a Bed and Breakfast. This use is classified as "Bed and Breakfast" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 128 D 24 in Garapan. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

**Date:** May 17, 2017
**Time:** 5:00 pm
**Place:** Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 16, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

*/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman*

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone)**

**for**

**Fermina G. Shimizu**

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Fermina G. Shimizu is requesting to rezone Lot 1734New-4-R2 in Chalan Kiya from "Rural" to "Mixed Commercial" zoning district to construct and operate a warehouse facility.

A public hearing will be held on:

**Date:** May 17, 2017
**Time:** 5:00 pm
**Place:** Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 16, 2017. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

*/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman*

## Security officer allegedly sexually abused minor

A 19-year-old security officer was arrested Monday for allegedly twice sexually abusing a minor on Saipan in March.

Christopher Ada Chlarson Jr. faces charges of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

A $100,000 cash bail was imposed on Chlarson, who is a security officer at Best Sunshine. Preliminary hearing will be on May 19 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark is his counsel. Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government.

A police officer responded to a school on Monday morning after the principal reported a sexual abuse of a minor case.

A teacher talked to a 15-year-old student after she wrote in a journal that someone has been traumatizing her. The student said that Chlarson sexually abused her twice while she was sleeping at home last March.

Chlarson allegedly admitted the allegation. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

# McDonald's donates $3K to NMA

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ray Tebuteb, left, poses for a picture with McDonald's Middle Road manager Joe Ayuyu Jr., center, and McDonald's owner/operator Marcia Ayuyu, far right.

**By ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

McDonald's Saipan has donated $3,000 to the Northern Marianas Athletics for the 13th consecutive time in support of the upcoming Public School System/McDonald's All School Athletics Championship this weekend.

"It is a good example of what partnerships with the community could really achieve. We are happy for the event," said McDonald's Middle Road branch manager Joe Ayuyu Jr.

Ayuyu said McDonald's is happy to support events that serve as a good opportunity for students.

"For the last 13 years, McDonald's has been donating to the All Schools Track and Field and it is part of our strong commitment to kids and our community," said Ayuyu.

"We have to thank the NMA for helping to organize this, as well as the volunteers, families, and the participants because everybody needs the support," he added.

NMA president Ray Tebuteb said he is grateful and appreciative of McDonald's continued support for the event. He said the money would fund the refreshments of volunteers of the track and field event.

"For us, this is very powerful because for these kinds of events, most of our people are volunteers, so the most we can do for our people is buy them drinks," he said. "We would just really want to extend our profound appreciation and gratitude to McDonald's for helping us."

The Public School System/McDonald's All School Athletics Championship is open to all of the schools in the CNMI—both public and private—and is open to students aged 7 to 18.

Since the renovation of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium is still going on, the All School Athletic Championship will be held at the Hopwood Middle School field from May 11 to 13, this Thursday to Saturday.


## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

# INVITATION FOR BIDS
## CUC-IFB-17-024

### KAILING DRIVE WATERLINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified construction firms for the Kailing Drive Waterline Replacement Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of abandoning the existing 4-inch waterline and replacing it with a new 4 inch C900 PVC pipe. Work will also consist of installing new fire hydrant and gate valve assemblies, reconnection of service laterals to the new water main and replacement of water meter assemblies. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC.

*This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.*

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **120 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $50.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **May 17, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-024, CUC Kailing Drive Waterline Replacement Project, Saipan",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 31 , 2017,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms.

Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **4:00 PM (ChST) on May 19, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Joel Puyat, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email joel.puyat@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Technician- via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY CAMACHO**
**Executive Director**

**MANNY B. SABLAN**
**Purchasing Administrator**



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

# INVITATION FOR BIDS
## CUC-IFB-17-025

### ISA DRIVE SEWER LINE EXTENSION PROJECT PART B

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified Construction firms for the Construction of the Isa Drive Sewer Line Extension Project Part B in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of new installation of new sewer mains, manholes, and drop manholes. The asphalt pavement restoration shall be completed by others. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications.

***CUC requires the Project to be completed by August 15, 2017 pending the Department of Public Works ongoing road construction. It may be extended if the road construction experiences any delays in the vicinity of the sewer line extension. The contractor shall be allotted a minimum of 90 days to complete the work.***

*This project is funded by the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Capital Improvement Project thru the CNMI. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.*

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **May 3, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-17-025, Isa Drive Sewer Line Extension Part B"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 16, 2017,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on May 8, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org and to Travis Spaeth, CUC Project Engineer via email address travis.spaeth@cucgov.org .

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY CAMACHO**
**Executive Director**

**MANNY B. SABLAN**
**Purchasing Administrator**

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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## EDITORIAL

# Finally, some relief on school lunch nutrition rules

To the great delight of many students and school lunch administrators, the Agriculture Department announced the relaxation of some strict school lunch nutrition rules.

Citing "operational challenges" in meeting sodium, whole grain and milk requirements for the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program, Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue signed a proclamation last week that will offer schools greater flexibility and discretion in their lunch offerings. Specifically, Perdue promised to continue allowing states to grant waivers to schools struggling to satisfy whole-grain requirements, while the agency draws up new regulations "to provide schools with additional options." Schools will also be able to offer flavored, 1 percent fat milk, and sodium limits, which were scheduled to be reduced in the next school year—and again in 2022—will be held at current levels. The proclamation did not address other restrictions on calories, fat and sugar.

"This announcement is the result of years of feedback from students, schools and food service experts about the challenges they are facing in meeting the final regulations for school meals," Perdue said at an event in Leesburg, Va., to commemorate School Nutrition Employee Week. "If kids aren't eating the food, and it's ending up in the trash, they aren't getting any nutrition, thus undermining the intent of the program."

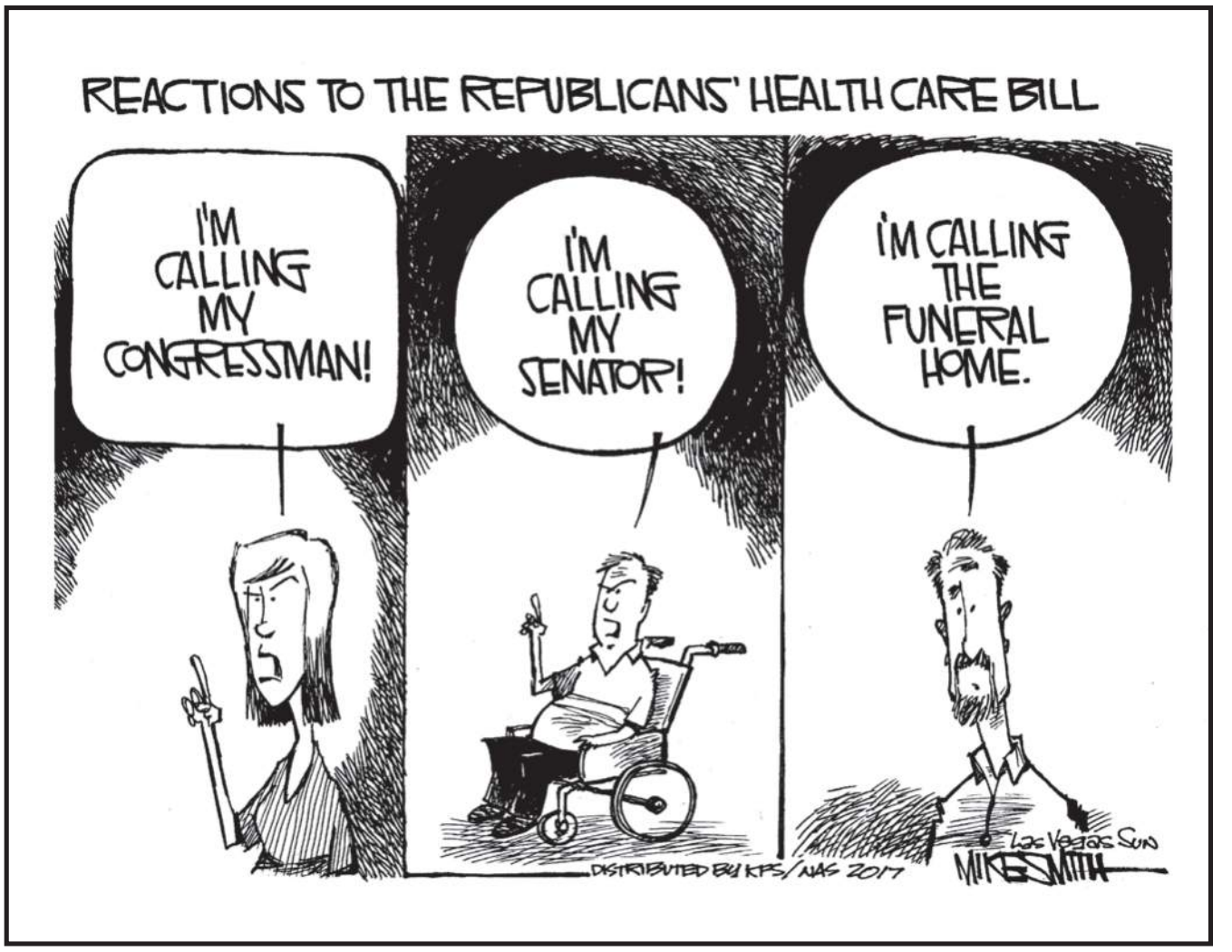
Food waste has certainly been a problem, as students have rejected the taste of the new meals. The nutrition rules, which are detailed in thousands of pages of regulations and were borne out of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, have prompted a significant backlash from students, many of whom posted pictures of meager and unappetizing foods on Twitter with the sarcastic hash tag #ThanksMichelleObama, in reference to the former first lady's role as champion of the nutrition mandates.

Many stopped participating in the program altogether. In fact, despite steady growth during the prior decade, the program saw a decline of 1.4 million students (4.5 percent) during the first three years under the new nutrition guidelines, a September 2015 U.S. Government Accountability Office report noted. Students were even driven to establishing black markets for salt, pepper and sugar in order to flavor bland meals.

This meant less revenue for school districts, even as the standards raised food and labor costs by $1.2 billion in fiscal year 2015 alone, leading to many cuts in cafeteria staff, the School Nutrition Association and School Superintendents Association lamented. "(M)eeting these mandates has harmed the financial health of nearly 70 percent of school meal programs surveyed, with fewer than 3 percent reporting a financial benefit," a 2015 SNA survey found.

It is encouraging that the USDA is revisiting and relaxing school lunch nutrition regulations, but perhaps this is a good time to re-evaluate whether providing subsidized lunches to schoolchildren should be the province of the federal gov-

*See FINALLY on Next Page*


REACTIONS TO THE REPUBLICANS' HEALTH CARE BILL
I'M CALLING MY CONGRESSMAN!
I'M CALLING MY SENATOR!
I'M CALLING THE FUNERAL HOME.
DISTRIBUTED BY KFS/NAS 2017
Las Vegas Sun
MIKE SMITH

# Will kids remember Trump fondly?

**By JUDI KETTELER**
Los Angeles Times

*Judi Ketteler is a writer in Cincinnati. She is the author of two nonfiction books and a forthcoming young adult novel set in the 1980s. She wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times.

My dad's hatred for Ronald Reagan created a soft spot in my heart for the Gipper. Will history repeat itself with Donald Trump and my children?

My family gets through most dinners with no mention of the president. My 8-year-old son, Max, takes up a chunk of conversational real estate by quizzing us on NFL stats. My 6-year-old daughter, Georgia, tells stories about playground drama ("I wanted to play cats, but Ava wanted to play puppies!"). My Mississippi-born husband is always good for a random story involving yet another Southern expression I've never heard. Between all of that and my griping about clients (to any clients reading: I'm definitely not talking about you), Trump talk is edged out.

Inevitably, though, after a particularly ludicrous day in Trumpland, a tirade slips through. As soon as I say, "Did you hear what he did today?" the kids groan and my husband sighs.

Lately, I've been noticing how much my frustration makes me sound like my father circa 1981. My dad hated Reagan passionately. Dinnertime conversation was full of declaratives like, "If Reagan's car broke down in front of our house, and he knocked on the door and asked to use our phone, I wouldn't even let him in!" I also remember my dad yelling at the television whenever Reagan spoke. When I would ask why he was so upset, he would say something like, "Because deregulation doesn't work!"

I may have groaned the same way my kids groan when I start in on Trump, but I listened. I took it all in. And a weird thing happened: I found I didn't really agree with my dad—for reasons that were 100 percent emotional and 0 percent based on any understanding of policy (which is not unlike the way many adults today vote, but I digress). It was Reagan's presence that I liked. His speech after the Challenger explosion, for example, is etched in my brain.

If my dad's dislike for Reagan was comically large and freely offered, my schoolgirl trust of the 40th president was small and secretive. "He only got elected because he makes people feel good," my dad would say. I failed to see why this was harmful. Compared with, say, the girls at school who would tease me and make me feel decidedly bad, having a president who made people feel good seemed rather nice.

Although I eventually copied my dad's politics, registering as a Democrat, to this day Reagan remains an exception—a Republican I can divorce from his ideology, and find endearing.

My soft spot only deepened when my dad died four years ago from the same wretched disease that claimed Reagan. We even referenced the old Gipper on my dad's deathbed. "You can finally tell him exactly what you thought of deregulation!" I said to my mostly unconscious father, as we all laughed, to keep from crying.

The whole week that my dad was dying, I had a strange sense that Reagan was somehow there, joining us with his perfect hair. He was the orator of my youth, and if he could talk me down after a space shuttle blew to bits, maybe he could talk me down now.

This all comes back to me as I cut up Georgia's chicken and threaten to read the latest Trump tweet out loud. "He has lost touch with reality!" I rant, the knife in my hand. My kids eye me as if I'm the one who has lost touch with reality. But they couldn't possibly grow to like him, could they? After all, my rants against this regrettable president are nothing like my dad's. He said Reagan was an actor playing the best role of his life. And just the other night, I said Trump was a TV star in the reality show of his life. But still, no, it isn't the same. It can't be. Because Reagan was the epitome of suave. And Trump is the epitome of not suave. Even grade school children couldn't miss that he's a clown, right?

Then again, they might need a clown. Is he their comic relief in a dangerous world, full of grownups sulking around? What I rail against as pure unfitness to be president, do they hear as unlikeliness, similar to YouTube stars who come out of nowhere? When I talk about the roller-coaster ride of Trump's presidency, do they think that sounds kind of fun?

Perhaps my kids will one day feel nostalgic both for my exaggerated sentiments and the man who provoked them. "Remember when she said she was going to take our life savings and hire the best hacker in the entire world to hack Trump's Twitter account and make him apologize for every terrible thing he ever said?" Max will say, and Georgia will laugh along, "God, she hated him."

My memories of Reagan and my dad are sacred, smoothed and styled with Brylcreem—wholly protected from the divisiveness of politics. If my kids come away from childhood with something similar, I guess it won't be so bad. But I'll tell you what, if Trump's car breaks down in front of my house, I'm not letting him in.

# Hatsadan Sueddun Lehislatura

Mafa` si kopas i publiku `nai ha hatsa sueddun niha i lehislatura gi $75,000 gi sakan guine gi alacha. Mahasñgon mayute` gi un` banda linala` familia gi mas ke 13-mit (13,000-mas) na empleau ni gumagana "poverty income" level sino menos--sueddun popble.

I 13,000-mas na empleau gaige gi halum 25 mit (25,658) na hutnalerus gi enteru iya Marianas. Pot mas ke 20 años ti kahulu` sueddun niha gi halum mattirun hatsadan presiun fektus yan otru siha nesessidat familia. Lau ni este ti makonsidera ni lehislatura!

Inipus na chechu` ambenteria na nina` fan bachet ya ma-upus i dichu nesessidat familia siha. Estague` na mañan representante lumetke obligasion niha gi publiku nai ha tobus gi un` banda interes mayotmenti.

Mahatsa sueddun niha $35,5000 hi hilu` i presenti na sueddu. Sumen taya` konsiderasion gi mayotmiente ni numesessita alibiun maseha dididi` para nesessidat niha. Este na malabidan kabron yan kombalache u hoñga `agañg gi botasion otru sakan. Tarehata siempre manadiñgan!

**Sahyan Natibu:** I sinistenin kuttura yan tradision natibu mau`udai enteramiente gi usun liñguahita. Este solu uttimu sahyan gi ma-abiban haf` kuttura-yan tradision-ta.

Metgot esta pa`gu usun liñguahita gi halum guma` familia. Fitme na pisu gi ineyag sustansian kuttura gi famaguon-ta. Hana` banidosu-yu` i trabiha memetgot ha` este na modun finana`gue gi sankattan na Marianas. Gigon maliñgun sirenu usun liñguahita chumagigu yan despedidan kuttura-ta. Susteni fitme!

Agradesimientu para i antigu na mañaina-ta ni sumusteni liñguahi-ta gi halum todu mattiru gi entalu` kuattru na nasion. Ma-usune ñañgun na modun inatuñgu` pot liñguahita.

Masuñgun todu minamahlau pot para umasusteni kutturan natibu. Makat na fina`pos `nai fuetsau manma-otdin para u yute` kutturan Chamorro.

Seguruyu` na guaha mumattit siha lokue` pot natibu. I minesñgun niha gi halum tratamientun esklabu, lau mandueñon este siha na petlas, sumen makat na fina`pos. Ma-usune pot satbasion unu yan todu!

Nahuñg na aminasu ya maila` ta susteni haf` kuttura-ta yan tradision-ta. Gaige este gi usun diariu na finu` Chamorro!

**Hineñgge-mu:** Kada unu gai hiñeñggen petsonat, espirituat yan moralidat. Kada unu lokue` solu guiya kumomprendi finaposña gi entalu` tres halige.

Ala kuenta petsonat pot disision ni hagu dumisidi, espirituat ineyag finana`guen i Saina, yan moralidat i sensiamu chomo`gue i tinas segun i tinagu` I Saina.

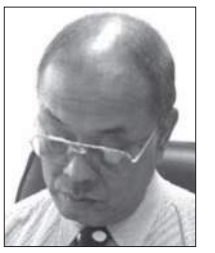
**Uttimu Besis:** Gi karera mona, megai lini`e-hu pinadesi piot gi bandan ti man-amtiyun siha na chenot. Lau gi 1989 malofanyu` gi un` sumen chatsaga na pinadesi `nai ni monayu`ni tatte.

Sin ditension hu pega enteramenti inañgoghohu gi disposision i Saina. Ha oppe finaisenhu ya felis dispues hinemlu` lahi-hu. Desde ayu na tiempu kontentu-yu` gi todu disposisioña sa` guiya mannana`e. Tatnai chathinassu-yu` ya felis ha`anihu siha diariu.

Estague` bintahan inañgog-hu gi tai hinekog na nina` siñan yan yine`ase` i Sainata. Gi hilu` hinimiddi hu tutuhun desde 1993 diariu na noben San Jude esta pa`gu na ora. Tatnai hu upus fuera ke `nai ma-opera korason-hu.

I hagahu lokue` ha tutuhun namaisa nobenan Divine Mercy yan familiaña. Banidosu-yu` gi dinaña` este na okasion sa` huli`e na siempre u fan felis para mona. Ai na boninitu `an makanta ni famaguon mame gi tres bos (harmony) "He will carry you". Esta tuhu` lago`hu ni bonitun kantan niha i famaguon.

Lamegai siha estorian tautau ni pumadedesi ti amtiyun na chenot. Ha kahlañg siha ti inañgog-hu yan bendision i Saina. Guaha manmaguñg pinadesin niha. Pa`gu i manmadispone pas yan felis hinanau niha.



**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the* Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

**Kuadrante:** Kumu amku`, sessu hu impeña yan poñga i mañeluhu siha haf` propiu na che`chu` echu tautau. Ilegña dispues si nanahu, "Muñga mana` kuatdrau mampos kuadrantemu sa` mantautau".

Sumehayu` manhassu. Adumididi` sige hu pasensiaye. Tat ti chumachaleg dispues. Fan akonseha gi hilu` pinasensia, hinimiddi yan katma na totnu. Parehu i otru yan hagu mina` mauleg un` atan maisa hau finenina. Trata kumu achaiguamu sin galun.

**Signifikasion:** I mafabrikan sino mana`lifet kadu` kuttura espehus na ti un` tuñgu` tinattemu kumu patgon tanu`. Naufragu hau gi haf` kutturan indihinau!

Yangin enfin gai tinatte gi kutturan antigu na Chamorro mauleg ma-atisa. Lau `nai ni sikiera granum unai, maulegña madispacha ensegidas. Muñga hit manmañaluda ni ti tihoñg-ta!

Bonitu lokue` suniduña. Mas bonitu `nai makanta gi tres bos ni famaguonhu. Esta hana` maggem korasonhu sa` manhame mannobena kumu familia.

**Achu` Lusuñg:** Hu soda` antigu na achu` lusuñg. Hu chule` guatu gi kareta yan dos gachoñg-hu. Lau ti siña in` hatsa dispues. Hunana`lu tatte gi sagaña.

Ilegña un` amku` na mauleg na tihu apudera `sino guaha fina` buruka para bai finatoigue. Tres semana dispues i amku` chumuli`e-yu`. Ilegña "na kontentu hau sa` mangagauyu` petmisu". Bali umekuñgog!

**LITERARY NOOK**

# Three Mother's Day sonnets

**By JOEY PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

### Sonnet for Mother

loving thoughts of my mother surfaced this week
a pen and paper helped me get them off my chest
write them down, read them, a need to plainly speak
about my beloved mother us children feel truly blessed
from baby bottles to breakfast, lunch and dinner plate
her home cooked food I've overeaten it must be confessed
beef stew, scalloped potatoes, cottage pudding, all just great
us five washed for church, shoes shined, pants, shirts pressed
guardian angels, a poem, a prayer for our family with love
teeth brushed, into pajamas, into bed for a night of rest
she tucked us all in with care looking down from above
all her virtues and daily sacrifices are hard to be assessed
those qualities not observed you could easily have guessed
in understanding that my mother and yours did her very best

### Mothers Need More Than One Poem

Mothers, every child in the wide world had em
matrimonial bonds gave us Dad who made em
Mothers gave us all our brothers and sisters
worked hands to the bone, callouses and blisters
Mothers, they all had mothers and fathers as well
many now gone to heaven or resting for a spell
Mothers, some of us have had more than one
in some cases divorce, remarriage, or on the run
Mothers, one biological one from our first breath
who clothed, fed, and reared us, loved us till death
Mothers got us off on time to church and school
were our first teachers of basics and the Golden Rule
Mothers, our wives, partners or us are now one
living proof to children that life can be hard and fun

### Mothers Need Another Poem Too

Mothers, where would we be without one of them
lessons from Mother Mary's babe born in Bethlehem
Mothers, unpaid years cooking and mopping the floors
hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, nonstop household chores
Mothers, deal with kids fights, dads coming home drunk
changing many poopy baby diapers that truly stunk
Mothers sewing some of our older brothers clothes to fit us
soothing our crying when siblings or childhood friends hit us
Mothers thinking of kids seldom buy clothes for themselves,
telling us our homemade clothes were made by Santa's elves
Mothers finding ingredients for a chocolate birthday cake
taking us all for a dip in the ocean, a pond or nearby lake
Mothers, some gone now straight to heaven up above
gone but never forgotten they have our everlasting love

# Trump's official foreign policy looks to be about ignoring human rights

**By ANDRES OPPENHEIMER**
Miami Herald

*Andres Oppenheimer is a columnist for the* Miami Herald. *Readers may email him at aoppenheimer@miamiherald.com.*

President Donald Trump's frequent praise for dictators around the world has long suggested that he would be no champion of human rights. Regrettably, it looks as though his disdain for universal freedoms will now become an official tenet of U.S. foreign policy.

In a May 3 address to State Department employees, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said that while U.S. foreign policy is guided by fundamental values, too much reliance on human rights principles "really creates obstacles to our ability to advance our national security interests, our economic interests."

He added that, "In some circumstances, we should and do condition our policy engagements" on human rights, "but that doesn't mean that's the case in every situation."

Hmm. In several long, convoluted sentences, Tillerson turned around the bipartisan principles that have guided U.S. foreign policy since World War II. What most of us heard from his State Department speech was that the United States will from now on defend human rights "in some circumstances."

Trump had pretty much telegraphed this during the campaign, when he said, "I don't think we have a right to lecture" other countries on human rights. As president, he has proposed stringent budget cuts to democracy promotion programs, and became the first president in recent memory to boycott the sessions of the highly respected Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

Putting human rights on the back burner is one of the most counterproductive things that the Trump administration could do, and reflects Trump and his inner circle's utter ignorance of history.

Several U.S. presidents in the 19th and early 20th centuries supported pro-American dictators, with disastrous results. Franklin Delano Roosevelt once famously said that Nicaraguan strongman Anastasio Somoza "may be an S.O.B., but he's our S.O.B." But that backfired, creating generations of anti-American leaders, Marxist guerrillas and _ more recently _ Islamic fundamentalist terrorists.

Some Republican foreign policy experts tell me I'm reading too much into Trump and Tillerson's human rights statements.

Elliott Abrams, a top White House official in the George W. Bush administration and current senior fellow with the Council on Foreign Relations, told me that virtually all recent administrations, especially Republican presidents, at first vowed to place national security over human rights concerns, "but they usually end up realizing how important support for human rights really is. And I think that will happen here, too," he said.

This is because new U.S. presidents "talk to a lot of people around the world, and realize that one of the reasons for the popularity of the United States is the support for democracy. Abandoning that support is not cost free," he said.

Citing Trump's recent meetings with Venezuelan opposition activist Lilian Tintori and Egypt's recently released American aid worker Aya Hijazi, Abrams added that "I don't think that Trump is going to end up being indifferent" to their stories.

Asked about Trump's tacit premise that, in the era of Islamic fundamentalist terrorism, U.S. security concerns should overshadow human rights concerns, Abrams said that "Islamic extremism is an idea, and you have to fight it not only with guns, but also with ideas. You cannot defeat it with guns, and the idea that will defeat it is freedom."

My opinion: I wish I could be as optimistic as Abrams about Trump's human rights learning curve. Granted, every recent U.S. Republican president started his term as a human rights skeptic and ended up embracing the principle.

U.S. presidents have often sounded hypocritical when defending human rights abroad _ given the U.S.' own frequent transgressions _ but upholding fundamental freedoms everywhere more often than not is what has made the United States different from most other countries. Rather than making America great again, Trump's coddling of dictators will hurt America's image, and will create bigger national security problems in the future.

## FINALLY

*From Page 10*

ernment, particularly in light of President Donald Trump's recent executive order to "protect and preserve state and local control" of K-12 schools. Like many other government programs, the school lunch program has seen an inexorable expansion in size and scope over the years, leading to unintended consequences including massive waste.

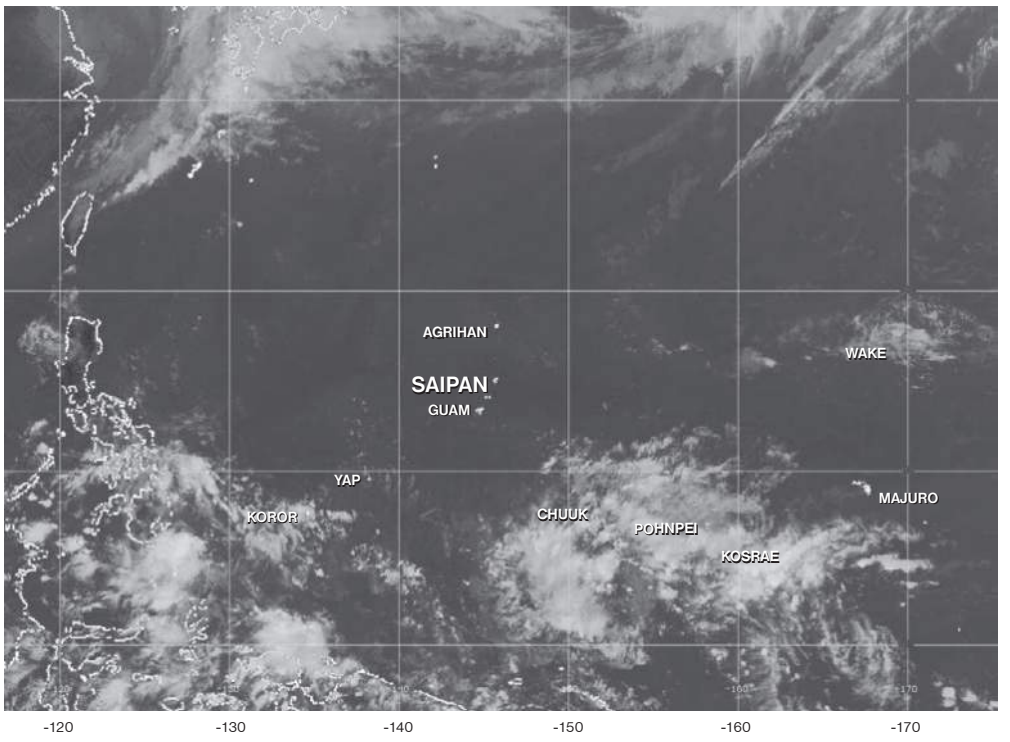
**(c)2017 *The Orange County Register* (Santa Ana, Calif.)**

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly sunny in the morning with isolated thunderstorms developing later in the day. | Partly cloudy. | Isolated thunderstorms during the evening, then skies turning partly cloudy overnight. | Scattered thunderstorms. | Mixed clouds and sun with scattered thunderstorms. |
| ▲87º ▼79º | ▲86º ▼78º | ▲85º ▼79º | ▲86º ▼79º | ▲86º ▼79º |

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE




**PICTURE TIME: 6:49 AM, TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2017**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

No changes from previous forecasts. A dry trade-wind pattern is well established across the region and looks to continue through the weekend. Moderate trade winds and isolated showers will continue into next week.

*Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/*

| MICRONESIA | ▲ ▼ | °F |
|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorms | 89 \| 81 °F |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | 86 \| 77 °F |
| Yap | Thunderstorms | 88 \| 72 °F |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | 86 \| 81 °F |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | 85 \| 78 °F |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | 86 \| 80 °F |
| Majuro | Partly cloudy | 85 \| 81 °F |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | ▲ ▼ | °F |
|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Mostly cloudy | 66 \| 61 °F |
| Beijing | Sunny | 90 \| 71 °F |
| Hong Kong | Partly cloudy | 84 \| 76 °F |
| Honolulu | Partly cloudy | 83 \| 72 °F |
| London | Mostly sunny | 62 \| 47 °F |
| Los Angeles | Partly cloudy | 69 \| 61 °F |
| Manila | Partly cloudy | 92 \| 79 °F |
| Melbourne | Partly cloudy | 60 \| 44 °F |
| Miami | Sunny | 86 \| 72 °F |
| New York | Partly cloudy | 62 \| 49 °F |
| Osaka | Cloudy | 75 \| 63 °F |
| Paris | Sunny | 68 \| 53 °F |
| Pusan | Cloudy | 74 \| 52 °F |
| Rome | Partly cloudy | 75 \| 58 °F |
| Salem | Sunny | 74 \| 51 °F |
| San Francisco | Partly cloudy | 59 \| 53 °F |
| Seoul | Partly cloudy | 73 \| 52 °F |
| Tokyo | Partly cloudy | 69 \| 60 °F |
| Washington, DC | Sunny | 70 \| 53 °F |

**NMI CRIME STOPPERS**
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | FEET |
|---|---|---|
| 1:26 AM | LOW TIDE | 0.80 |
| 6:53 AM | HIGH TIDE | 1.89 |
| 1:53 PM | LOW TIDE | 0.02 |
| 8:18 PM | HIGH TIDE | 1.80 |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 5:50 AM | 6:36 PM |
| Thursday | 5:49 AM | 6:37 PM |
| Friday | 5:49 AM | 6:37 PM |
| Saturday | 5:49 AM | 6:37 PM |
| Sunday | 5:48 AM | 6:38 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Today | - | 5:20 AM | 6:07 PM |
| Thursday | - | 6:01 AM | 6:55 PM |
| Friday | - | 6:43 AM | 7:44 PM |
| Saturday | - | 7:26 AM | 8:33 PM |
| Sunday | - | 8:12 AM | 9:21 PM |

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# FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 25, 2017

## DEPARTURES

### SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6394 | 4:15am | 5:05am | Daily |
| UA6392 | 8:40am | 9:30am | Daily |
| UA6391 | 1:30pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota |
| UA6390 | 2:20pm | 3:10pm | 2, 3, 6 |
| UA6398 | 6:05pm | 6:55pm | Daily |
| UA6396 | 9:50pm | 10:40pm | Daily |

### SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6391 | 1:30pm | 2:05pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

### ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6391 | 2:35pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

### SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL297 | 4:15pm | 7:05pm | Daily |

### SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| TW308 | 2:35am | 6:25am | Daily |
| OZ626 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ626 | 2:50am | 6:40am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| 7C3403 | 4:35am | 8:30am | Daily |
| LJ652 | 3:10pm | 7:05pm | Daily |
| 7C3401 | 4:30pm | 8:25pm | Daily |
| ZE582 | 4:25pm | 8:35pm | Daily |

### SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3451 | 2:55am | 6:10am | 1, 7 |
| OZ608 | 3:10am | 6:20am | 4, 7 |
| 7C3451 | 3:15am | 6:30am | 4, 5 |

### SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3433 | 3:55am | 7:30am | 3, 7 |

### SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8648 | 5:20am | 8:00am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

### SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU764 | 1:30am | 6:50am | 3, 5, 7 |

### SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8646 | 4:30am | 7:50am | 2, 6 |

### SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ626/701 | 2:10am | 10:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/701 | 2:50am | 10:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UA6394/191 | 4:15am | 9:00am | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA6394/PR111 | 4:15am | 9:30am | Daily via GUM |
| UA6391/183 | 1:30pm | 9:30pm | 5 via Rota-GUM |
| UA6391/183 | 1:30pm | 9:50pm | 1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM |
| UA6391/193 | 1:30pm | 11:10pm | 5 via Rota-GUM-ROR |
| UA6390/183 | 2:20pm | 9:30pm | 2 via GUM |
| UA6390/183 | 2:20pm | 9:50pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA6390/193 | 2:20pm | 11:10pm | 2 via GUM-ROR |

### SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UO43 | 4:40am | 8:10am | 1, 3, 4, 6 |
| HX077 | 2:15am | 5:15am | 1, 4 |
| OZ626/721 | 2:10am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ626/721 | 2:50am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| UA6391/159 | 1:30pm | 10:35pm | 1, 5 via Rota-GUM |
| UA6390/159 | 2:20pm | 10:35pm | 3, 6 via GUM |

## ARRIVALS

### GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6393 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| UA6395 | 7:15am | 8:05am | Daily |
| UA6391 | 12:10pm | 1:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA6390 | 12:10pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 via Rota |
| UA6397 | 4:45pm | 5:35pm | Daily |
| UA6399 | 8:30pm | 9:20pm | Daily |

### GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6390 | 12:10pm | 12:45pm | 2, 3, 6 |

### ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA6390 | 1:15pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 |

### NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL298 | 10:25am | 2:55pm | Daily |

### SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| LJ651 | 8:25am | 1:45pm | Daily |
| ZE581 | 10:15am | 3:35pm | Daily |
| 7C3402 | 10:10am | 3:30pm | Daily |
| OZ625 | 7:40pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 |
| TW307 | 8:15pm | 1:35am+1 | Daily |
| OZ625 | 8:20pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| 7C3404 | 10:10pm | 3:30am+1 | Daily |

### BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3452 | 8:30pm | 1:20am+1 | 6, 7 |
| OZ607 | 9:00pm | 1:50am+1 | 3, 6 |
| 7C3452 | 9:35pm | 2:15am+1 | 3, 4 |

### JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7C3434 | 10:05pm | 2:40am+1 | 2, 6 |

### SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8647 | 10:20pm | 4:30am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |

### BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MU763 | 4:40pm | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6 |

### GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3U8645 | 7:50pm | 2:40am+1 | 1, 5 |

### MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| UA190/6397 | 9:55am | 5:35pm | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| OZ702/625 | 12:30pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/625 | 12:30pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| PR110/UA6395 | 10:05pm | 8:05am+1 | Daily via GUM |
| UA192/6395 | 10:20pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via ROR-GUM |
| UA184/6395 | 10:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA184/6395 | 11:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |

### HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ722/625 | 1:15pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/625 | 1:15pm | 1:40am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| HX076 | 5:50pm | 12:45am+1 | 3, 7 |
| UO42 | 4:50pm | 12:05am+1 | 2, 6 |
| UO42 | 6:05pm | 1:10am+1 | 1 |
| UO42 | 6:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 4 |
| UA116/6395 | 9:55pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

### TINIAN TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 6:30AM | 6:45AM | Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 7:30AM | 7:45AM | Daily |
| 8:30AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 9:30AM | 9:45AM | Daily |
| 10:30AM | 10:45AM | Daily |
| 11:30AM | 11:45AM | Daily |
| 12:30NN | 12:45NN | Daily |
| 1:30PM | 1:45PM | Daily |
| 2:30PM | 2:45PM | Daily |
| 3:30PM | 3:45PM | Daily |
| 4:30PM | 4:45PM | Daily |
| 5:30PM | 5:45PM | Daily |
| 6:30PM | 6:45PM | Daily |
| 6:30PM | 6:45PM | Daily |

### SAIPAN TO TINIAN

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:00AM | 7:15AM | Daily |
| 8:00AM | 8:15AM | Daily |
| 9:00AM | 9:15AM | Daily |
| 10:00AM | 10:15AM | Daily |
| 11:00AM | 11:15AM | Daily |
| 12:00NN | 12:15NN | Daily |
| 1:00PM | 1:15PM | Daily |
| 2:00PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 3:00PM | 3:15PM | Daily |
| 4:00PM | 4:15PM | Daily |
| 5:00PM | 5:15PM | Daily |
| 6:00PM | 6:15PM | Daily |

### SAIPAN TO ROTA

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 7:45AM | 8:15AM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:00PM | 4:30PM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |

### ROTA TO SAIPAN

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
|---|---|---|
| 8:30AM | 9:00AM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:45PM | 5:15PM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |

# Manta Ray Battalion wins overall drill meet award

Cadets of the Saipan Southern Manta Ray Battalion won overall at the Golden Bear West Coast National Drill Meet in Torrance, California last April 29.

They won the All-Army championship Traveling trophy, third place for Armed Inspection, third place for Armed Exhibition Varsity, third place for Armed Sweepstakes Varsity, third place for Armed Duo (cadet Emmanuel Aquino and cadet Bonillo), first for Armed Regulation Varsity as a group, and fifth for Armed Color Guard.

An example of Armed Exhibition. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

For individual awards, battalion commander cadet Lt. Col. Matthew Kapileo won first place for armed tap out, first place for outstanding commander, and fourth place for unarmed tap out.

Cadet Emmanuel Aquino won fifth place for armed tap out.

Cadets from Rota High School Chamorro Buck Battalion also won the following awards: second place for Four-Man Unarmed Exhibition (cadets Jezzel Candia, Loreville Clitar, Mary Heather Jingco, and Francisco Santos Jr.), and fifth place for outstanding commander (cadet Maj. Keoni Hocog).

SSHS principal Martha Kintol said her students did an outstanding job for bringing home the All-Army Championship Trophy.

"I would like to thank you all for the support you gave to the Manta Rays and the Bucks in the 2017 Golden Bear National Drill Meet," said Kintol.

"Congratulations to the cadets for their exceptional drill performance at the national drill meet," said SSHS senior Army instructor CSM (ret.) Richard Basa. "You made the CNMI very proud for that accomplishment, history was made once again." ***(Mackenzie Perez)***

# Environment conference registration now open

The 29th Pacific Islands Environmental Conference, to be held on June 13-15, 2017, on Saipan, is now open for registration.

The theme of this year's conference is "A Sustainable Pacific: Preparing for Change, Voyaging with Knowledge." The conference agenda will focus on climate change and island resilience, approaches to sustainable development, and the connections between public health and the environment.

Interested persons can register at becq.gov.mp. The registration fee is $50 for the three days, or $20 for one day.

Alexis Straus, the acting administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for Region 9, will give the opening keynote for the three-day conference.

EPA's Pacific Southwest Region (Region 9) is home to more than 50 million people and spans the Pacific Islands, 148 tribal nations, and the states Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Nevada. EPA partners with state and local agencies to administer and enforce federal environmental laws that address safe drinking, public health, toxic waste, and air pollution. Each of these are a challenge to islands that are complicated by climate change, development, and emerging health concerns.

The first PIEC session convened 55 years ago (in 1961), to assess how to better preserve and protect the natural resources of Oceania that were being threatened by rapid economic, social and environmental changes. As a result of PIEC meetings, our leaders made sustainable decisions that aimed to conserve and restore the natural resources of our island homes.

During the 29th PIEC, more than 300 delegates from the environmental protection professions including managers, field representatives, government officials, private companies and non-profit groups are expected to be in attendance. Attendees will come from across the Pacific, American Samoa, Guam, the Republic of Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. There will also be representatives from the U.S. mainland and international locations. ***(PR)***

Pacific Historic Parks donates books to the Sinapalo Elementary School. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pacific Historic Parks donates books to the Tinian Elementary School. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# PHP donates books to Tinian and Rota schools

Education specialist Jovannalyn Mafnas and education manager Jaclyn Balajadia represented Pacific Historic Parks in donating books to elementary schools on Tinian and Rota.

The Tinian Elementary School and Sinapalo Elementary School each received 50 *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes* books and origami paper for schools to share the story of Sadako and folingd paper cranes in honor of peace.

For the past year, American Memorial Park has been sharing the story of Sadako Sasaki, a young Japanese girl who was 2 years old when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945. Sadako's story has made her a symbol of victims of nuclear warfare. The sharing of this story and its connection to the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands has inspired many to work toward a more peaceful world.

During the visit, books and supplies were donated and over 200 students were given presentations about National Parks in the United States including American Memorial Park on Saipan. After students read the story of *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes,* they are asked to fold paper cranes which American Memorial Park will collect and send to be displayed at the Peace Park in Hiroshima, Japan in late summer in honor of Sadako Sasaki and World Peace Day.

Pacific Historic Parks supports the National Park Service through research, preservation, restoration, fund development, education and interpretive programs of World War II in the Pacific and other Pacific historic sites. ***(PHP)***

# Kilili donates books to the Manta library

As part of the monthlong celebration of School Library Month, the library of Saipan Southern High School received a donation of 15 boxes of books from Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) last April 19. The books were made available from the Library of Congress Surplus Books Program in Washington, D.C.

Each of the donated books has the following inscription: "Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers."—Charles W. Eliot

The books could not have come at a better time. The current size of the Mantas Rays' library collection is approximately 2,919 titles for all genres. However, only 914 of those titles belong to the fiction collection; at this library, fiction books circulate 10 times more often than non-fiction titles. Overall, Sablan's donation supplants an already meager library collection that is barely enough to meet the needs, let alone stimulate the imaginations of the school's 800 students.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The library of Saipan Southern High School received a donation of 15 boxes of books from Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, center, last April 19.

The donation offers a mix of fiction, non-fiction, and reference materials, with copyright dates of no more than one or two years from release date. Some of the titles were advanced proofs of novels, many of which have attractive covers designed to effectively lure readers. The new books are a welcome addition and should be enough to engage the most avid of readers.

The most in-demand titles for young adult readers at Saipan Southern High School include *mangas* (anime), graphic novels, contemporary series, fantasy, dystopian fiction, steampunk, and science fiction.

At this time, the school library is open to community donations, including individual, corporate, and alumni donations. For more information or to make a donation, call the school at 664-4002 or email rosalyn.ajoste@cnmipss.org. ***(PR)***

# ESFDB celebrates Teacher's Appreciation Week

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
In celebration of Teacher's Appreciation Week, administration, teachers, and students of the Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja pose for a group photo.

Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja kicked off Teacher's Appreciation Week on May 1 through 5 with the biblical quote, "He shall teach you all things" (John 14:26).

As the school celebrated Teacher's Appreciation Week, the quote was the perfect gospel for its Catholic lay teachers.

"Last week was very special at ESFDB because it was Teacher's Appreciation Week," said administrator-principal Carmen H. Atalig. "I wanted our students to take the opportunity to thank all their teachers. We have a great Catholic school in the Luta community and it's because of our Catholic lay teachers."

Atalig added, "I get asked over and over what makes ESFDB a great Catholic school, and I answer that it's the teachers. A teacher's day doesn't end when the bell rings at dismissal. They still have to plan out their work and correct your work. They are so dedicated to their profession because of you, the students. Thank you teachers for all you do."

Parent Teacher Organization president Imelda Marie H. Atalig said: "This is a week to share and express gratitude for our teachers, for all the work they do, all of their loving patience, and their constant investment into each child and each family at ESFDB."

During the week, parents and students gave flowers, thank you cards, fruits and vegetables baskets, and thanks to some parent volunteers who manned the classrooms while teachers took a break to enjoy some treats, courtesy of Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig and Linda Atalig, members of the 16th Rota Municipal Council, Tita A. Hocog, and Rosita A. Hocog and family.

"A huge thank you to our parents and all of you who continue to encourage and value our ESFDB teachers and Catholic community," said Student Council president Jeremy John Atalig II. "Our teacher's have done lots of amazing things in our school."

Class adviser Mary Rose Lucero said, "The week truly does make me feel appreciated. A million thanks to the parents and students."

To culminate the week, the teachers and parents played a game of volleyball followed by snacks provided by the parents. ***(ESFDB)***

# GCA Kinder student top K-1 Math Court

Grace Christian Academy's Kindergarten 5 student Hans Ordas topped this school year's Math Court islandwide competition.

Ordas, who started as a Kindergarten 4 student at GCA, said that math is his favorite subject. Motivated by his parents and teachers to join school and islandwide competitions, he is a consistent first place winner in all the last Math Court monthly competitions.

The administration, faculty and staff, and parents of Grace Christian Academy were very proud of each Math Court competitor and would like to extend their congratulations to the islandwide winners and state round qualifiers during the Math Court competition held on April 5, 2017, at Saipan Southern High School. All of them are qualified to compete in the regional competition ast May 6, 2017. ***(PR)***

## ISLANDWIDE WINNERS

**Kinder to 1st Grade**
Hans Ordas, 1st place

**2nd to 3rd Grade**
Sena Woo, 4th place

## STATE ROUND QUALIFIERS

**Kinder to 1st Grade**
Hans Ordas
Sheewoo Kim
Llyana Jaira Manalang

**2nd to 3rd Grade**
Sena Woo

**4th to-6th Grade**
Ryan Daproza

**GCA proctors:** Marilyn Aldan, Grace Duran, Jae Kwang Oh

**GCA Math Court coordinator:** Susan Pajarillaga

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Grace Christian Academy's Math Court 2017 Saipan Islandwide winners and state round qualifiers.

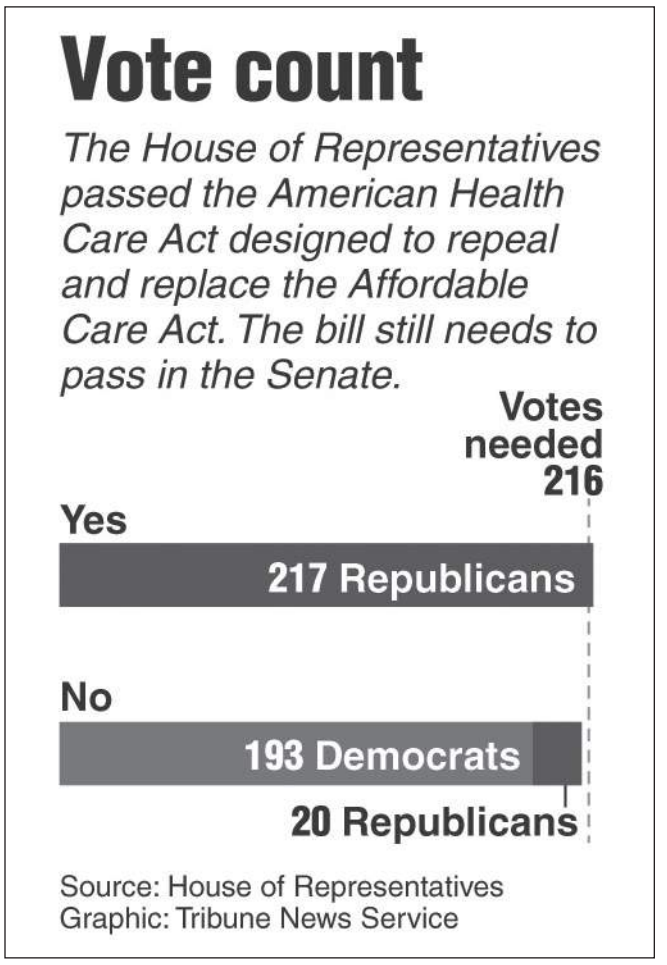
# Business

## Health care fight shifts to Senate, where Republicans want a reboot

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—It took blood, sweat and tears for Republican leaders to finally push their health care bill through the House last week. Don't expect the process to be less arduous in the Senate, though more of the angst in that more decorous chamber will likely be behind closed doors.

No one expects a new bill to be written quickly, but Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., has started a process for producing one. Republican senators have made clear their measure will differ markedly from the House legislation, which has drawn withering criticism from Democrats who see it as a pathway to winning a House majority in the 2018 elections.

"This process will not be quick or simple or easy, but it must be done," McConnell said Monday.


Vote count
The House of Representatives passed the American Health Care Act designed to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. The bill still needs to pass in the Senate.
Votes needed 216
Yes
217 Republicans
No
193 Democrats
20 Republicans
Source: House of Representatives
Graphic: Tribune News Service

### MCCONNELL'S WORKING GROUP

McConnell dislikes surprises and drama. Both characterized the House's chaotic four months of work on its bill, which saw revolts by conservatives and moderates derail initial versions and humiliate President Donald Trump and Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis.

McConnell has included himself in a group of 12 GOP senators essentially tasked with privately producing a bill that can pass the Senate. Republicans control the chamber 52-48.

Democrats are virtually certain to unanimously oppose the Republican effort to repeal much of President Barack Obama's health care overhaul. So Republicans are using a special process preventing a Democratic filibuster that would require 60 votes to end. McConnell will need 50 GOP votes to pass a bill, a tie Vice President Mike Pence could break.

That means McConnell can lose just two Republicans, so his group has a strategically shaped membership.

### THE GROUP'S ROSTER

Sens. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., Mike Enzi, R-Idaho, and Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, chair pivotal committees. Sens. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, and Cory Gardner, R-Colo., are from states that used Obama's law to add hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries to Medicaid, an expansion they want to protect but the House bill would end. Gardner chairs the Senate GOP's campaign committee.

Sens. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, and Mike Lee, R-Utah, are conservative firebrands who represent states that didn't expand Medicaid but want additional funds for that program. Sens. John Cornyn, R-Texas, John Thune, R-S.D., and John Barrasso, R-Wyo., are in the Senate GOP leadership, and Tom Cotton, R-Ark., is an ambitious up-and-comer who frequently criticizes the House measure.

Democrats and liberal activists have lambasted McConnell for appointing a group with no female members.

### POSSIBLE CHANGES

Portman is among Republicans whose states dislike the House's Medicaid cuts because they'd face a wave of constituents losing coverage under the health care program for the poor. The House would end the extra federal money states get for new beneficiaries under Obama's Medicaid expansion by 2020, and some GOP senators want a delay.

Much Medicaid money is used to combat the illegal use of addictive opioid drugs. That's another reason for GOP senators from hard-hit Midwestern and Northeastern states to oppose such cuts.

Obama's law helps millions buy private insurance with federal subsidies geared to income and policy premiums. The House instead links its aid to age, with older people getting larger tax credits. Thune and others want to shift the subsidies more generous to lower earners.

Cruz said House conservatives won "a positive improvement" with provisions letting states get federal waivers so insurers can charge some people with pre-existing conditions higher premiums, and letting states decide which medical services insurers must cover. He said "considerably more work" was needed to lower premiums.

In addition, the filibuster-free process Republicans are using requires that legislative provisions be related to raising or decreasing the federal deficit, and not primarily driven by policy changes. Conservative health care analyst James Capretta says the odds for survival "are low" for House language allowing state waivers for higher premiums on people with pre-existing conditions.

Also in jeopardy: a provision forbidding consumers to use federal subsidies to buy insurance covering abortion.

The Senate parliamentarian will decide whether provisions must be stricken from the bill. The Senate could override that with 60 votes.

# Nation

## For over a year, serial killing suspect went undiscovered

**PHOENIX** (AP)—For more than a year, Phoenix police were stumped by a string of killings in which a shooter stalked victims after dark and gunned them down as they stood outside their homes or sat in their cars. Nine people were killed in all in a case dubbed the Serial Street Shooter.

Police fielded thousands of tips, went door-to-door in a largely Hispanic neighborhood of Phoenix where the shootings happened and analyzed ballistics from a different, unrelated serial shooting case. On Monday, they announced they had arrested a former city bus driver in the killings while providing scant detail about what motivated him or details about how they made a break in the case, other than to credit tips.

Aaron Juan Saucedo, 23, faces 26 felony counts of homicide, aggravated assault and drive-by-shooting for 12 shootings that took place between August 2015 and July 2016, Phoenix Police Chief Jeri Williams said.

The investigation into the serial killings had focused on what authorities said were seven fatal shootings. But police on Monday said they had tied Saucedo to nine killings in all—eight random victims and one man that he knew.

Saucedo was a bus driver for the city of Phoenix through a temp agency for several months in July through August 2015, Phoenix police said. Records show Saucedo was pulled over for allegedly running a red light on Oct. 27, 2015, just a month after the first killing.

On Monday, Williams and Mayor Greg Stanton appeared alongside other top officials, including Maricopa County's top prosecutor, to announce the break in a case that had appeared largely stalled in recent months as leads and tips dried up.

"This case plagued our community for more than a year ... and left behind a trail of victims that included mothers, sons, brothers, sisters and families still mourning the loss of their loved ones," William said.

Police say they don't know what motivated Saucedo and that he didn't have any connection to any of the eight people who were killed. They said they'd be giving out the $75,000 reward offered for tips, but they wouldn't reveal details about whether the money was going to one person or multiple people.

The case finally broke when Saucedo was arrested last month in connection with the August 2015 fatal shooting of a man, 61-year-old Raul Romero, who had a relationship with Saucedo's mother. Authorities investigated Saucedo more closely and connected him to the serial killings.

The Associated Press was unable to reach Saucedo's public defender on Monday.

Police say that after Romero's killing, Saucedo struck again about four months later in killing 22-year-old Jesse Olivas, who was gunned down on New Year's Day 2016 while standing in front of a home.

The suspect then went on a killing spree from March of last year through July, police said.

In the end, nine people were killed in 12 separate shootings. All of the killings were random except for the first one, Williams said. "We hope that our community will rest a little easier and that our officers will get a little more sleep knowing that the wheels of justice are finally in motion," she said.

Gisela Castro, the mother of shooting victim Manuel Castro-Garcia, said news of the arrest felt like she was reliving the day she was told her son had been killed. Castro-Garcia, 19, was fatally shot on June 10, 2016.

## Mexico and police chief slam Texas' new 'sanctuary city' ban

**AUSTIN, Texas** (AP)—The Mexican government, San Antonio's police chief and others slammed Texas' new "sanctuary cities" law on Monday, saying that requiring local law enforcement to help enforce U.S. immigration law could lead to racial profiling and will fan distrust of the police by the state's many Hispanics.

The law, which takes effect in September and which critics say is the most anti-immigrant since a 2010 Arizona law, will allow police officers to ask about the immigration status of anyone they detain, including during routine traffic stops. Republican Gov. Greg Abbott signed the law Sunday evening on Facebook Live with no advanced warning. A few dozen people protested outside his mansion in Austin on Monday.

San Antonio police chief William McManus ripped into the Republicans who pushed the law through despite the objections of every big-city police chief in the state. The Migration Policy Institute estimates that Texas is home to more than 1.4 million people who are in the country illegally, including 71,000 living in the San Antonio area.

McManus and the other police chiefs, including those in Dallas and Houston, say it will create a chilling effect that will cause immigrant families to not report crimes or come forward as witnesses over fears that talking to local police could lead to deportation. Critics also fear it will lead to the racial profiling of Hispanics and put officers in an untenable position.

"It's either skin color or language. What else does someone have to base it on?" McManus said, referring to an officer's reason for inquiring about a person's immigration status. "That leads to profiling. Profiling leads to lawsuits. In my opinion, there is nothing positive this bill does in the community or law enforcement."

Nevertheless, McManus said his department will abandon a policy that prohibits officers from asking about a person's immigration status.

"We're going to have to take it off the books," said McManus, adding that it will probably have to spend a year now training his roughly 2,400 officers on immigration law.

The law also drew rebuke from Mexico, which is Texas' largest trading partner and shares close ties to the state. The country's foreign ministry said in a news release that the law could trample on the rights of Mexican citizens who choose to live just across the border and promised to "closely follow" the situation after the law takes effect.

# Asia

## Nations critique Filipino leader's rights record at UN body

**GENEVA** (AP)—A Filipino senator briskly defended the human rights record of President Rodrigo Duterte's government before a U.N. body on Monday, saying his government always "seeks to uphold the rule of law" while critical Western nations aired concerns about deadly vigilante justice and extrajudicial killings in the country.

Senator Alan Peter Cayetano came before the U.N.'s Human Rights Council equipped with a slide show and video excerpts of previous comments by Duterte about the Philippines' fight against illegal drug trafficking, repeating claims that critics are smearing the Filipino government's record and urging a distinction between "fake news" and real news.

"One: There is no state-sponsored killing in the Philippines. Two: There is no sudden wave of killings," Cayetano said. "We are asking you — through the mechanisms of this honorable council — to interview our people, to go to our communities, to visit the Philippines and to see for yourself: The truth, the real numbers."

"At all times, the Duterte government seeks to uphold the rule of law," he added.

Cayetano was speaking Monday at a review of Philippines human rights record at the council, part of a process known as the Universal Periodic Review of all 193 U.N. member states. The Philippines currently has a seat on the 47-member council which also includes Britain, China, Cuba, Egypt, Germany, Saudi Arabia and the United States.

AP

A protester shouts slogans during a rally near the Presidential Palace to protest the "extrajudicial killings" under President Rodrigo Duterte's so-called war on drugs which coincided with the U.N. Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review in Geneva, Switzerland, Monday, May 8, 2017 in Manila, Philippines.

Last week, U.S. President Donald Trump set off an uproar in Washington by inviting Duterte to the White House, despite rights groups' criticism of his anti-crime campaign. Human Rights Watch says it has left over 7,000 suspected drug dealers and users dead since Duterte took office in June; the Manila government contests that figure.

The two-week UPR session focuses of 14 countries including Britain, India and South Africa. Following Cayetano's opening remarks, delegations had one minute to comment on the Philippines' record and make recommendations. Such reviews are mostly used to spotlight alleged abuses and urge countries to honor their rights obligations.

Some countries praised the Philippines' efforts: A Chinese delegate cited Cayetano's "very convincing" remarks and challenges faced by China and other "developing countries" to fight the drugs trade. Several Western countries in particular raised concerns about violence against journalists, the prospects of a reinstated death penalty, and extrajudicial killings.

Deputy Permanent Representative Tanya Bennett of Australia said her country was "deeply concerned" about the reports of extrajudicial killings linked to the "so-called war on drugs, noting credible allegations of involvement by elements of the Philippine national police."

Germany's envoy called for the Philippines to take "all necessary measures" to stop extrajudicial killings, and the Vatican said reports of enforced disappearances were "deeply troubling."

Cayetano argued that critics altered the definition of extrajudicial killings in the Philippines from that used under previous governments, insisting: "Suddenly, 'extrajudicial killing' refers to any death outside those causes by natural causes, accidents, or those ordered by courts — and we do not have the death penalty, so none are ordered by courts."

"Make no mistake ... one death or any death or killing is one too much," he added. "However, there is a deliberate attempt to include all homicides as 'EJKs' or killings related to the campaign against criminality and illegal drugs — and that these are state-sponsored, which is absolutely not true."

He said more than 1.2 million drug pushers and users have surrendered "voluntarily" and are "being rehabilitated."

## S. Koreans vote for new president to succeed ousted Park

**SEOUL, South Korea** (AP)—Millions of South Koreans headed to polls Tuesday to elect a new president, a culmination of a two-month race a trailing conservative equated to an ideological war as his liberal rival appeared poised to overturn a decade of conservative rule after a massive scandal toppled the previous leader.

Conservatives worry that a victory by Moon Jae-in might benefit North Korea and estrange South Korea and its most important ally, the United States.

Moon was the clear favorite as conservative forces struggled to regroup after the huge corruption scandal ended Park Geun-hye's presidency.

"I gave all my body and soul (to the election) to the very end. My party and I invested all our efforts with a sense of desperation, but we also felt a great desire by people to build a country we can be proud of again," Moon, 64, told reporters after casting his ballot.

The final opinion surveys released last week showed Moon, the Democratic Party candidate, had about a 20 percentage-point lead over his two main rivals—a centrist and a conservative.

His victory would end a near-decade of conservative leadership by Park and Lee Myung-bak. Moon was chief of staff for the last liberal President Roh Moo-hyun, who sought closer ties with North Korea by setting up large-scale aid shipments to the North and by working on now-stalled joint economic projects.

Outspoken conservative Hong Joon-pyo, the candidate from Park's Liberty Korea Party, described the election as a war between ideologies and accused Moon of being aligned with North Korea.

After voting, Hong said the election was a "war of regime choices between people, whether they decide to accept a North Korea-sympathizing leftist government or a government that can protect the liberty of the Republic of Korea," South Korea's formal name.

Hong has pitched himself as a "strongman" who can hold his own against other "nationalist" leaders in Washington, Tokyo and Beijing. He also calls for the United States to bring back tactical nuclear weapons to South Korea after withdrawing them in the 1990s.

The polls have shown Hong and centrist Ahn Cheol-soo running even.

Voting stations are set to close at 8 p.m. and South Korean TV stations plan to release the results of their joint exit polls soon after the vote ends and are expected to predict a winner before midnight.

The National Election Commission said more than 55 percent of the country's 42.4 million eligible voters cast their ballots as of 1 p.m., a measurement that included the 11 million people who participated in early voting last week.

The winner will be sworn in after the National Election Commission ends the vote count and confirms the result Wednesday. Because the vote is a special election, the new president will forgo the usual two-month transition and will serve one full, five-year term rather than only completing Park's original term, which was to have ended in February 2018.

Some voters were eager to end the long conservative rule, which they think failed the economy and undermined democracy before the corruption scandal toppled Park.

"Moon wasn't my favorite candidate in terms of policies, but I voted for him because he represented the best chance to switch government power and that's the most important thing over anything else," said Lee Ah-ram, a 39-year-old Seoul resident. "We need a leader who could restore the people's trust in government that had been damaged by Park's scandal."

## ASIAN BRIEFS

### UN official calls for more work with disabled in North Korea

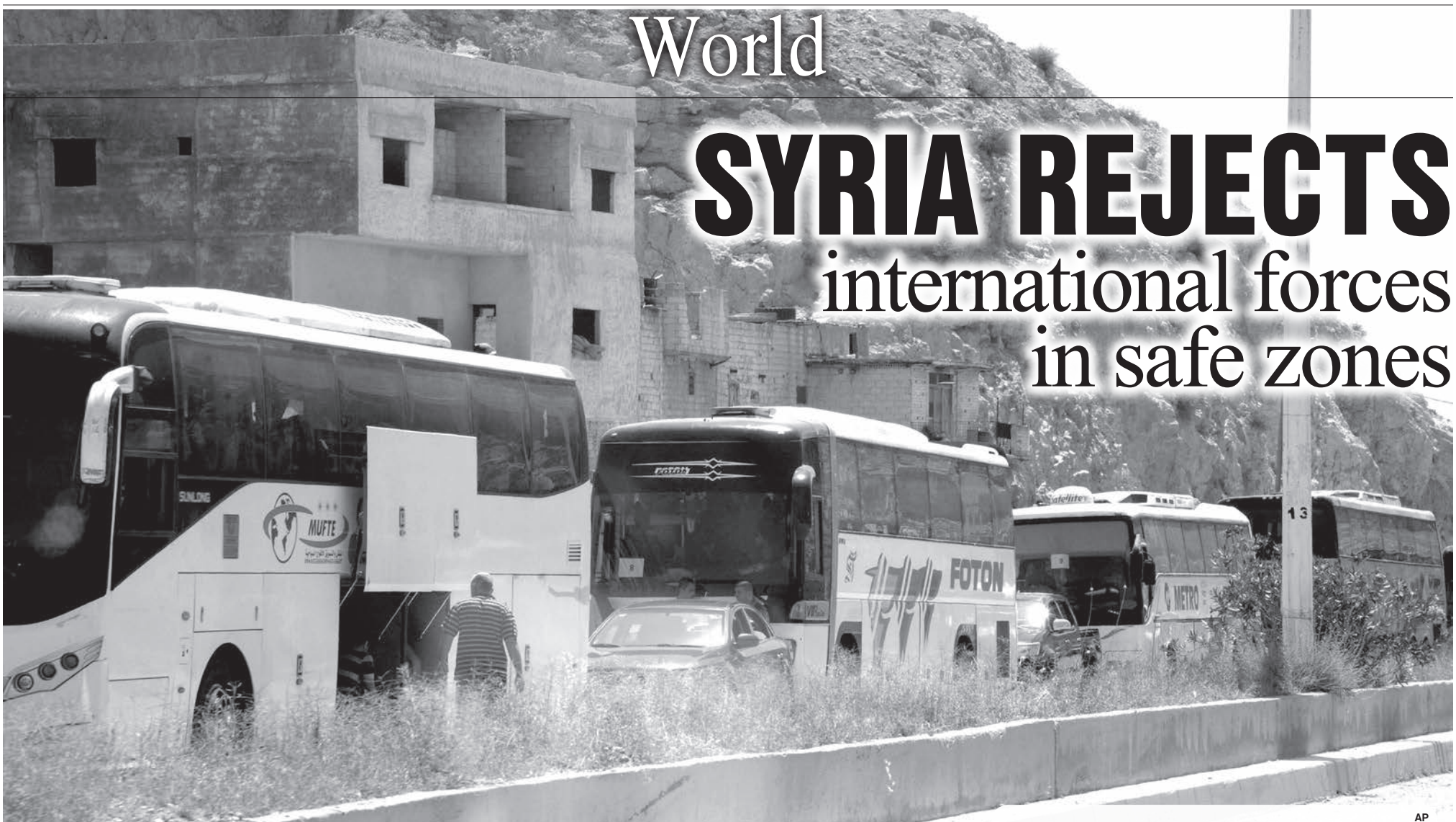
**PYONGYANG, North Korea** (AP)—A United Nations official visiting North Korea called Monday for more attention to disabled people in the socialist state. The U.N. special rapporteur on the rights of people with disabilities, Catalina Devandas Aguilar, talked to a small group of foreign and North Korean media at a news conference on the last full day of her eight-day trip to Pyongyang. She urged the U.N. and other international organizations to "make all of their projects inclusive of persons with disabilities and to mainstream disabilities in all of their humanitarian strategies and programs in the country." She is the first official designated by the U.N.'s Human Rights Council to be allowed to enter North Korea. The U.N.'s special rapporteur on human rights in North Korea has not visited, nor did any of his predecessors. In recent years, North Korean authorities have tried to promote work to take care of people with disabilities, as international criticism of human rights in North Korea has grown.

### Afghan official: Bomb at religious school kills chief cleric

**KABUL, Afghanistan** (AP)—An Afghan official says a bombing at a religious school in northern Parwan province has killed the chief cleric and wounded four students. Deputy governor Shah Wali Shahid says the head of the Parwan clerical council, Mawlavi Abdul Rahim Hanafi, was assassinated in the explosion. Shahid says Hanafi was the main target of the bombing, which took place on Tuesday morning at the madrassa in Charakar, the provincial capital. It wasn't immediately clear why the cleric was targeted and no group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack. Shahid denounced the attack as a "terrorist act." He says an investigation is underway to determine how the bomb was brought into the classroom. The Taliban announced the start of their spring offensive last month, threatening to step up attacks across the country.

World

# SYRIA REJECTS international forces in safe zones




AP

This photo released by the Syrian official news agency SANA, shows buses carrying Syrian citizens who were evacuated from Damascus' besieged northeastern Barzeh neighborhood in Damascus, Syria, Monday, May 8, 2017.

**BEIRUT** (AP)—Syria on Monday dismissed the idea of foreign forces patrolling four so-called de-escalation zones that are to be established under a deal struck by Russia, Iran and Turkey, suggesting Damascus would agree only to Russian "military police" who are already on the ground.

Syria planned to abide by the agreement signed in Kazakhstan last week, Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem told reporters in the Syrian capital, but he cautioned it was "premature" to say whether the deal would succeed.

"There will be no presence by any international forces supervised by the United Nations," al-Moallem said. "The Russian guarantor has clarified that there will be military police and observation centers."

Though he did not specify who the military police would be, he appeared to be referring to Russian observers already in Syria.

Al-Moallem also vowed that Syrian government forces would respond "decisively" to any violation by the rebels.

"There are still logistical details that will be discussed in Damascus and we will see the extent of commitment to this agreement," al-Moallem said.

On another diplomatic track, the United Nations' Syria envoy, Staffan de Mistura, announced plans to reconvene talks in Geneva between representatives of Syrian President Bashar Assad's government and opposition leaders May 16.

A statement from de Mistura's office late Monday said he hoped the agreement struck in Kazakhstan would be fully implemented, to achieve "significant de-escalation in violence" and help underpin the political talks in the Swiss city.

The cease-fire deal went into effect over the weekend, bringing a general reduction in violence, but clashes continued, particularly in central Syria. There are still questions about how the agreement will be enforced.

Russia and Iran, which support Assad, and Turkey, which backs the rebels, may deploy armed forces to secure the four so-called "de-escalation zones," in what would amount to unprecedented coordination between the three regional powers.

The U.N. Security Council president says Russia wants a vote early this week on a resolution supporting the deal. Uruguay's Ambassador Elbio Rosselli told reporters "there are consultations ongoing" on the text.

Several other council diplomats said a vote Monday or Tuesday—as Moscow is seeking—is highly unlikely, explaining that they need details on the zones.

The United States is not party to the de-escalation agreement. U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said the U.S. would take a close look at the proposal for "safe zones" in Syria, but he said the plan poses many unanswered questions, including whether it would be effective.

"We'll look at the proposal, see if it can work," Mattis told reporters traveling with him to Copenhagen, where he will attend a meeting of the U.S.-led coalition battling the Islamic State group. "Will it affect the fight against ISIS? I think the international community is united in the sense of wanting to see ISIS put on its back foot."

## New Hamas chief tours native Gaza, highlights power shift

**GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip** (AP)—The newly elected leader of Hamas paid tribute in Gaza on Monday to Palestinian prisoners being held in Israel, his first appearance in the new role and a sign of the group's internal power shift from the diaspora to the Hamas-ruled territory.

Since the Palestinian group's founding 30 years ago, its top leaders had moved between Arab capitals such as Beirut, Damascus, and Doha, Qatar. On Saturday, Hamas confirmed it had elected Ismail Haniyeh, a former Gaza prime minister, to replace Qatar-based Khaled Mashaal as head of the group's political bureau, the top job.

Haniyeh, born in the Shati refugee camp near Gaza City, is well known in the tiny, crowded coastal strip of 2 million people.

He briefly visited a Gaza City "solidarity tent" for hunger-striking Palestinian prisoners held by Israel, arriving in his familiar white SUV and accompanied by bodyguards. Photos of the prisoners were displayed in the tent.

"It's my honor to shoulder the responsibility of leading the political bureau of this large movement of holy resistance," he said after greeting local security chiefs.

Hamas' shift to Gaza comes at a time of growing financial pressure on the territory, ruled by the Islamic militant group since it drove out forces loyal to Western-backed Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in 2007.

Abbas, who oversees autonomous enclaves in the West Bank, has reduced salary payments and electricity subsidies to Gaza in recent weeks and said more steps would follow. It's part of an attempt to force Hamas to cede ground in Gaza after years of failed reconciliation attempts.

Haniyeh, 54, also faces other challenges, such as restrictions on movement. Israel and Egypt imposed a border blockade on Gaza after the Hamas takeover, keeping the territory's borders sealed most of the time. Hamas leaders have been able to travel abroad from time to time, but only with Egyptian coordination.

## Police pour in to Paris' train station, evacuate passengers

**PARIS** (AP)—Police poured into Paris' Gare du Nord station late Monday, evacuating passengers from platforms and sealing off the area for several hours in a new security scare to hit the French capital.

Paris police spokeswoman Johanna Primevert told The Associated Press that the operation was aimed at "removing doubt" and ended with no arrests, but she would not say what prompted it. A station employee said the operation focused on a train from Valenciennes in northern France.

The busy station is the terminus of a large suburban and national rail network as well as Eurostar trains from London.

The operation came the day after a tense and closely watched presidential election that was won by independent Emmanuel Macron, who has said one of his top priorities will be ensuring France's security.

France is under a state of emergency imposed after a series of Islamic extremist attacks, and while police would not indicate the reason for the Gare du Nord operation, its scale and nature recalled the kind of anti-terrorism actions that have grown increasingly frequent around Paris and beyond.

Police from the special BRI intervention force started pouring into the station just after 11 p.m. and asked where the train from Valenciennes was, according to a station employee, who was not authorized to be publicly named. Station staff directed officers to platform 10, where they were quickly joined by more and more police. Within minutes, authorities began evacuating the entire station, the employee said.

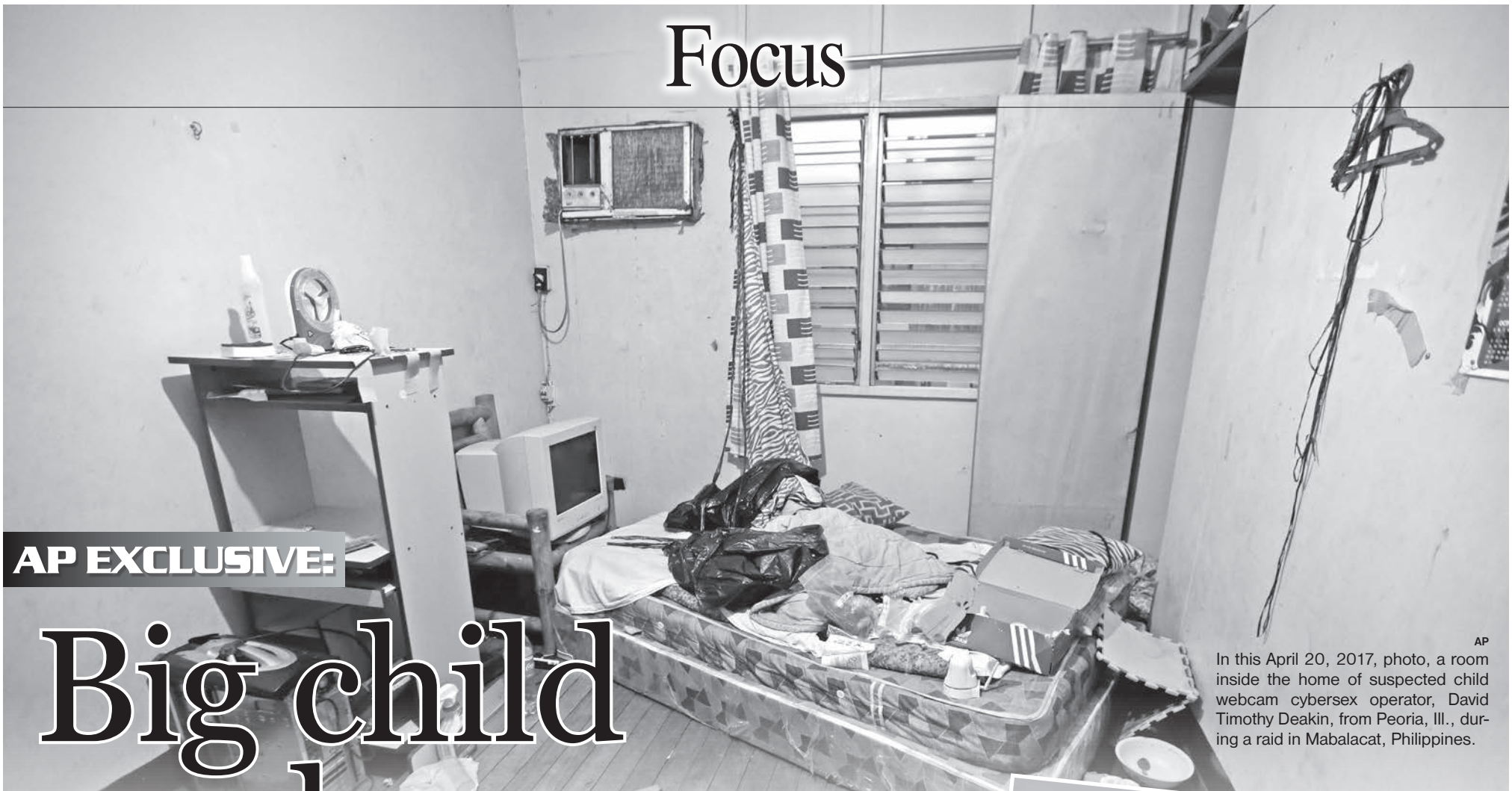
Dave James Phillips, a 39-year-old technology consultant from Britain, said he was getting off the last train in from London when he saw officers flooding the station.

"There were police immediately, and a chap with his hand on his gun," Phillips told AP. "As we were walking down the platform, one came down and said, 'Rapide, rapide. Out, out.'"

Phillips said police kept pouring into the station as passengers were hustled out and police buses and unmarked cars were "driving quite dramatically up the road."

Another witness said she was separated from her children by the operation and described a quick and somewhat chaotic scene.

Focus



AP

In this April 20, 2017, photo, a room inside the home of suspected child webcam cybersex operator, David Timothy Deakin, from Peoria, Ill., during a raid in Mabalacat, Philippines.

**AP EXCLUSIVE:**

# Big child webcam sex bust reveals rising abuse

AP

In this April 20, 2017, photo, suspected child webcam cybersex operator, David Timothy Deakin, from Peoria, Ill., waits following his arrest as investigators gather evidence during a raid at his home in Mabalacat, Philippines.

**By MARTHA MENDOZA and JIM GOMEZ**
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITERS

**MABALACAT, Philippines** (AP)—The suspected pedophile could see people banging on his front door. But were they neighbors? Cops?

One had letters on her jacket. As David Timothy Deakin googled "What is NBI?" from the laptop on his bed, the Philippines National Bureau of Investigation smashed their way into his cybersex den.

Children's underwear, toddler shoes, cameras, bondage cuffs, meth pipes and stacks of hard drives cluttered the stuffy, two-bedroom townhouse. Penciled on the wall, someone had scrawled "My Mom and Dad love me." In his computer were videos and images of young boys and girls engaged in sex acts.

"Why is everyone asking about children coming into my house?" said Deakin, 53, barechested and slick with sweat, his breath sour and glasses foggy, his wrists bound with a zip tie.

Deakin's arrest April 20 reveals one of the darkest corners of the internet, where pedophiles in the U.S., Europe and elsewhere pay facilitators in the Philippines to sexually abuse children, even babies, directing their moves through online livestreaming services.

This relatively new crime, webcam sex tourism, is spreading rapidly. The United Nations describes "alarming growth of new forms of child sexual exploitation online." The FBI says it's epidemic, and that at any given moment, 750,000 child predators are online.

Almost every case stems from the Philippines, where good English speakers, increased internet connections and widespread international cash transfer systems combine with widespread poverty and easy access to vulnerable kids. There have been as many as three busts a week there this spring. The youngest victim ever, rescued a few weeks ago, was an infant, 2 months old. Most are under 12.

This spring The Associated Press watched a raid, rescue and launch of a major investigation that continues to play out on both sides of the world.

"This should serve as a warning," said NBI anti-human trafficking chief Janet Francisco, who led the case. "We will really put them in jail and they will die in jail."

Even as police burst in, Deakin was streaming illicit content through the anonymous Tor network. Agents said he had a webpage open to wipe his phone clean. They tied him up with an iPhone charging cord before he could hit the button.

AP and investigators asked him repeatedly why he had the obscene images stored on his computer.

"There was no children in front of the cam in my house, not even dressed, as far as I know, not even with their frigging mothers as far as I know," he said.

But he said the images and videos may have slipped in when he downloaded massive files using BitTorrent, a data tool used legitimately by academics and artists, but also by child pornographers. FBI agents looking for abusers search BitTorrent to spot people sharing exploitive images.

Deakin said he grew up in Peoria, Illinois, in a splintered family. He was licensed as a roofing contractor in his 30s, seasonal work which left winters free; he used the time to study computers. He moved to the Philippines in 2000 for a job setting up internet service providers and installing Blackmagic livestreaming production programs.

In recent years, Deakin said, he earned $30 an hour as a systems administrator. But his home was filled with junk, his refrigerator near empty. Stacks of used egg cartons fell from the shelves, and a half-eaten pot of cold rice sat on the stove.

"You know what you've done in this room," an investigator told Deakin.

She showed him a photo of several children. Shrugging, he said one of them was probably a few doors away with her cousin. Minutes later, two girls, 9 and 11 years old, were rescued by police.

AP did not interview the girls Deakin told police about; victims of such raids need immediate and long-term counseling and care. But in the tranquil garden of a shelter for sexual exploitation survivors about 60 miles south of Deakin's town house, 19-year-old Cassie described her ordeal. AP did not use her whole name to protect her privacy.

The youngest daughter in an impoverished family, Cassie believed the man who came to her village promising a better life if she'd go to the city with him. She was 12.

Within months the man bleached her dark skin, straightened her hair, and began waking her at 4 a.m. to work.

"He needed some girl to show her whole body in front of the camera," she said.

The abuse ended when her older sister found out and went to the police.

Some buyers try to brush off the abuse, saying they're not directly touching the children.

"It's not just a virtual crime. It is an actual crime," said human rights attorney Sam Inocencio, who heads International Justice Mission 's Philippines office, which supports local law enforcement with investigators and attorneys. "Online sexual exploitation is possibly the most evil thing that I've seen."

In 2013, online sex exploitation of children gained global attention after researchers at the Netherlands-based nonprofit Terre des Hommes launched a realistic-looking animation of a 10-year-old Filipino girl named Sweetie. They took the fake girl on chat groups and online forums. Pedophiles swarmed. In 10 weeks, analysts identified 1,000 men in 71 countries who had tried to get illegal images.

The proliferation of crimes, along with new mandatory reporting, led to 8.2 million reports last year to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's CyberTipline related to online child sexual exploitation. That compares with 8.3 million reports in the 17 years prior.

Officials at both ends of the abuse agree they need to collaborate to stop it, and last month the U.S. committed $3 million.

Deakin's bust turned out to be one of the largest seizures of its kind in the Philippines. His Cheery Mobile Touch HD tablet — which can be wiped clean and reset with a four digit code — had more than 4,000 contacts. One computer had another 13 networked into it, from servers he said were around the world. There were 30 hard drives.

Neighbor Bessie Geronimo was teary-eyed. She'd seen children going in and out. Now, she wondered, could she have intervened?

"Oh, I pity those children," she said.

Authorities from a village police substation said a housekeeper filed a complaint against Deakin last year: he wasn't paying her, she said, and she was worried about what he was doing with children in the bedroom with the door closed. They visited his house but had no authority for a raid.

"There are many such places," said the security officer Mike Wood.

# Good Housekeeping

## 5 foods you can easily grow instead of buying at the store

By DENISE SCHOONHOVEN
GOBANKINGRATES.COM

Fresh wholesome food straight from your garden makes summertime eating a joy. Fruits, vegetables and herbs grown from seed or plants raised in your own containers are free from harmful chemicals and they're often more economical than buying the same ingredients in the store.

Compare the price and effort of homegrown favorites with what you can purchase in your grocery store's organic produce section before you decide how to plan your time, energy and food budget during the next growing season.

### RADISHES

At only $1.32 per pound, you could easily stock up on radishes for a few weeks. But $2.85 total will get you a packet of seeds, which — planted in short rows at weekly intervals in ordinary garden soil — will keep you supplied with the zesty salad ingredient through cool spring and autumn growing seasons. For classic red radishes with crunchy white centers, choose Cherry Belle. But for a rainbow of pink, red and purple radishes, get the Easter Egg variety.

### KALE

Superfood kale averages $1.59 per bunch in the store, but it's much more cost effective to grow your own hardy, weather-resistant kale plant. Seeds come in under $2 per packet, and live plants are only about $5. Kale is a superstar in the garden, in patio pots and as a decorative addition to flower beds. It thrives in garden soil amended with compost or potting mix to yield robust leaves you can cut, cook and come back to again and again for more.

### CILANTRO

Buying a fresh bunch of cilantro for your salsa only costs about $1.99, but when you grow your own from the same priced packet of seeds, you'll have more than enough for south-of-the-border style cooking all summer long. As a bonus, seeds of older cilantro plants allowed to flower and dry are the spice coriander, which can be used year round for seasoning curry, roasts and Latin American dishes.

### TOMATOES

Perfect for container gardening in a sunny spot, meaty Roma tomatoes and tiny, snack-able grape tomatoes are favorites that do best when you start with sturdy plants that cost around $5 per pot. At $1.79 per pound for Romas and $2.50 per pint of grape tomatoes in the store, the price of growing is about the same or a little more than buying, especially when you add in the planter, tomato cage and potting soil costs. But sun-ripened succulence makes it a worthy investment.

### MINT

Muddled in a mojito, tossed in tabouli or steeped for tea, fresh mint leaves are easily accessible when you raise a $5 mint plant. Why pay for fresh mint leaves — which can be sold for more than $10 per ounce by specialty retailers — when the plant's aggressive growth habit makes it an abundant harvest when kept in a pot on your patio?

## May gardening chores: A tip for every day of the month

By JESSICA DAMIANO
NEWSDAY

May can be a frenzied time for gardeners, as our outdoor obligations fully awaken from their long winter's nap. Temperatures — of the soil as well as the air — are rising, and plants are popping up. Like newborn babies, they demand attention immediately, and we're all too happy to oblige. So pull on your gardening gloves, inhale the scent of the lilacs, settle vegetable seedlings into their beds and, of course, start pulling those weeds. Here's a chore or tip for each day of the month to help you stay on track.

1. Treat yourself to some new perennials and start planting them now (or as soon as the threat of frost has past in your area).

2. Mulch beds and borders to suppress weeds, retain moisture and improve your soil. Never create "volcanoes" around trees or mulch deeper than 3 inches.

3. If you didn't last month, aerate and dethatch the lawn now.

4. Incorporate compost into planting beds to enrich the soil.

5. It's Cinco de Mayo! Plant cilantro to give your summer recipes a Mexican flair.

6. When buying cell pack annuals, seek out young, bloomless plants. They'll be healthier.

7. Fertilize cabbage, lettuce, spinach and other cool-season vegetables.

8. If houseplants are outgrowing their containers, repot them, but go up only to the next size.

9. Keep on top of weeds. To make the job easier, wait until after rainfall or hose down the area first.

10. Clean and store bird feeders.

11. Plant roses.

12. Begin planting gladiolus: Place corms pointy end up in full sun, 4 to 6 inches apart. Repeat weekly until mid-June.

13. Sow seeds of summer-blooming perennials and biennials directly into the garden.

14. Happy Mother's Day! Kids, do the weeding and watering today.

15. It's time to plant corn.

16. Prune gray tips from juniper branches.

17. Check the undersides of hollyhock leaves for orange pustules, telltale signs of rust fungus, and remove affected leaves.

18. Set a soaker hose over roots around newly planted trees. Water deeply now and throughout their first year.

19. Prune spring-flowering shrubs as soon as their blossoms fade.

20. If the lilacs are blooming, it's time to plant dahlias.

21. Transplant herb seedlings outdoors. Give them water, but not fertilizer.

22. Check asparagus daily and harvest when spears are 6 inches tall, but not if plants are less than 2 years old.

23. If nighttime temperatures are reliably above 55 degrees, it's safe to plant annuals outdoors.

24. Start hardening off vegetable seedlings: Set them in shade for longer periods each day for a week before transplanting.

25. Avoid synthetic chemicals: Deal with pests with pyrethrins, Bt, insecticidal soap or neem oil.

26. Gradually move houseplants outdoors, but never African violets.

27. Move tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, melons and other summer crops into the garden and apply mulch.

28. Fertilize tulip bulbs but don't remove foliage until it has browned and withered.

29. It's Memorial Day, time to fertilize the lawn. Apply one pound of slow-release nitrogen per 1,000 square feet.

30. For bushier plants, shear an inch off dianthus and creeping phlox when 6 inches tall.

31. Replace fading pansies with your favorite summer annuals.

## This roast beef salad is perfect for Mother's Day (or any day)

Roast Beef Chopped Salad with Warm Focaccia Bread. TNS

By LINDA GASSENHEIMER
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Make this easy dinner for mom on Mother's Day or for anytime. No cooking necessary. Just chop the vegetables all about the same size, add some low-sodium deli roast beef and serve with warm focaccia bread. Ask the deli to slice the roast beef in one thick slice about 1/2-inch thick. You can then cut the slice into cubes for the salad.

Helpful Hints:

■ Cubed roast chicken breast can be used instead of roast beef.

■ Any type of salad greens or vegetables can be used. The secret is to cut them all about the same size.

■ The salad can be made a day ahead and stored in the refrigerator.

Countdown:

■ Preheat oven to 350 degrees to warm the bread.

■ Prepare all ingredients.

■ Assemble the salad and serve with the warm bread.

Shopping List:

Here are the ingredients you'll need for tonight's Quick Fix dinner.

To buy: 1 focaccia bread, 1 bunch celery, 1 green bell pepper, 1 head romaine lettuce. 1 bunch peeled carrots, 1 large tomato, 3/4 pound low-sodium deli roast beef (cut in 1/2-inch slice), 1 package frozen corn kernels and 1 bunch scallions.

Stapes: olive oil, Reduced-fat oil and vinegar dressing.

■■■

### ROAST BEEF CHOPPED SALAD WITH WARM FOCACCIA BREAD

By Linda Gassenheimer

1/2 focaccia bread 4 ounces total

1 cup sliced celery (about 1/2 inch sliced)

1 cup green bell pepper cut into 1/2-inch pieces

10 large romaine leaves sliced into 1/2-inch pieces about 4 cups

1 cup sliced carrots, 1/2 inch

1 medium tomato cut into 1/2-inch (about 1 cup)

4 tablespoons reduced-fat oil and vinegar dressing

2 scallions, sliced (about 1 cup)

1/2 pound reduced-sodium all natural Deli Roast Beef thickly sliced

1 cup defrosted corn kernels

1 tablespoon olive oil

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place focaccia bread in oven to warm. Cut all vegetables about the same size. Cut sliced roast beef into 1/2-inch pieces. Place celery, green bell pepper, lettuce, carrot and tomato in a large bowl. Add the dressing and toss. Add scallion, roast beef and corn. Toss again. Remove bread from oven, drizzle with olive oil and serve with salad.

Yield 2 servings.

Per serving: 522 calories (32 percent from fat), 18.6 g fat (3.8 g saturated, 9.7 mono-unsaturated), 91 mg cholesterol, 41.9 g protein, 53.5 g carbohydrates, 9 g fiber, 499 mg sodium.

# Life & Style

## $54M fight over vacant Superman Building is settled

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** (AP)—A $54 million lawsuit over the state's tallest building, called the Superman Building, has been settled just before a trial was scheduled to begin in federal court.

The owner of the Providence skyscraper had sued its former tenant, Bank of America, saying the bank allowed it to fall into disrepair. The Charlotte, North Carolina-based bank had countersued, arguing it spent millions of dollars on maintenance before it moved out four years ago.

The owner, High Rock Westminster Street, based in Newton, Massachusetts, and the bank said they were pleased to have settled the lawsuit.

"High Rock looks forward to exploring options to make the most of its ownership of the building," a joint statement said. "Bank of America looks forward to continuing its long-standing partnership with the city and people of Providence."

The terms of the settlement weren't disclosed. A trial had been set to begin Monday.

The 26-story building has been vacant for years and has become a symbol of Rhode Island's economic decline.

It was the tallest skyscraper in New England when it opened in 1928 as the Industrial National Bank Building and became the most recognizable feature on the Providence skyline. The Art Deco-style skyscraper, at the heart of downtown, got its superhero nickname because of its similarity to the Daily Planet headquarters in the old TV show.

High Rock has said in court that Bank of America took such bad care of the building over a period of years that the limestone facade is crumbling, among other problems.

Bank of America had said that it spent tens of millions of dollars on maintenance and repairs on the building during its lease and contended that High Rock decided to sue so it could get the money it needs to convert the building into apartments.

## Girl, she's a boss: Netflix series highlights female mogul

In this April 28, 2017 file photo, actress Britt Robertson poses for a portrait in New York to promote her Netflix series, «Girl Boss.» AP

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Britt Robertson is no stranger to having to emote on the screen. She played a foster kid who finds her birth parents in the CW series "Life Unexpected" and a young waitress kidnapped and held hostage in CBS' "Under the Dome."

The 27-year-old actress is now starring in the Netflix comedy "Girlboss," based on the rags-to-riches story of Sophia Amoruso, who started selling vintage clothing on eBay in her early twenties and built the Nasty Gal empire that made her a millionaire. The best-selling "#Girlboss," published in 2014, is the basis for the series.

Robertson says she thought acting in a half-hour comedy would be easy, but playing a version of the fearless and witty Amoruso, called Sophia Marlowe on the show, was "energy-sucking."

"It took more out of me than anything else I've ever done in my life, in a good way. You want to be challenged. You want to be fulfilled and that takes energy, but ... it's hard," she said recently.

Robertson had to change her look for the show, dying her blond hair to chestnut brown and adding bangs. She also rocked vintage clothing to represent Amoruso's style.

"I think it was really important for me to change the way I look. Even when we were doing the costume fittings we would have to put a wig on me. It was so hard to picture the real Sophia character I was trying to embody while I look like a bleach-blond surfer girl. It just didn't really make that much sense. I loved it. It was so much fun for me. It's so hard to keep up though because it's not my natural color. My hair was not having it by the end. It was turning red and orange and yellow."

Amoruso stepped down as CEO of Nasty Gal in 2015. The company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy the following year and Amoruso resigned from the company.

Robertson says she's not sure if future seasons of "Girlboss" would follow the real story of Sophia's life that closely.

"Sophia's story is still changing so much as we speak," she said. "She's at a really crucial part where she's figuring things out a decade later in a different way so I think it just depends. Also she's a producer on the show. I'm sure she'll have some direction she'd like us to go in, but maybe not.

"She was very forgiving when we started doing the show and with my performance and with the writing; I hope we can take the things she's experienced in life because it's very fascinating. I hope people would love to hear a version of the story that isn't just the media side, but we'll see."

Now that "Girlboss" has been released on Netflix, Robertson is enjoying her time off from the series.

"For the first time I realize how important it is for me to enjoy what I'm doing and have a good time in the process. I'm really living right now. I went to South Africa. I went on a safari. I went diving with great whites (sharks). The last two days I went to Mets games, which are my favorite baseball team. I'm really living. I'm doing it all. This is my time to check off bucket-list stuff."

## Richard Simmons sues National Enquirer for libel

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Richard Simmons filed a libel and invasion of privacy lawsuit Monday against the National Enquirer and its parent company over stories that said he is now living as a transgender woman.

The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages as well as an apology and retraction for stories published in June 2016 and March 2017 in the Enquirer and its website, RadarOnline.

The lawsuit also names their parent company, American Media, Inc., and said the stories' main source was a man who has tried to blackmail the former fitness guru for years, and included a 2013 photo of Simmons dressed in drag.

Simmons' lawsuit' said he often dressed as a woman as part of "his well-known and longstanding burlesque-style entertainment persona."

The lawsuit listed what is said were 16 factual errors in the first story, including that Simmons had transitioned to become a woman and had undergone gender reassignment treatments.

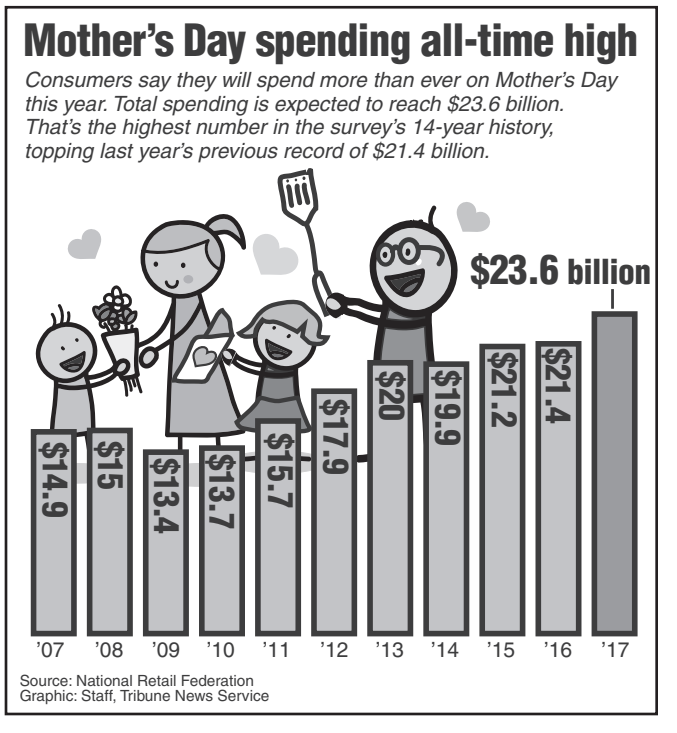
Simmon retreated from public life in 2014, sparking rampant speculation about his health and wellbeing and a popular podcast named "Missing Richard Simmons."

His manager has said Simmons decided to step back from the spotlight, and his previous years of high-profile appearances do not mean he is required to remain in the public eye. Simmons' manager and attorney did not immediately respond to phone and email messages Monday.

"For Mr. Simmons to claim that his privacy has been invaded is hypocritical when his entire livelihood is based upon the public consumption of his image," the National Enquirer wrote in a statement defending its reporting after the lawsuit was filed. "At the end of the day, how Mr. Simmons lives his life is news and of interest to our readers."

The case said Simmons is entitled to recover damages for his emotional distress caused by the story. It also said his retreat from public life is not a justification for the publication of false stories about him.

"The National Enquirer and Radar used Mr. Simmons' respite from the glare of public life to treat his persona as a defamation free-fire zone, acting as if they had a license to publish any story they wanted about Simmons," the lawsuit said.



# A look at Disney World's new Pandora-World of Avatar land

**LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla.** (AP)—It's not a movie set, but visitors to Disney World's new Pandora-World of Avatar land are in for a cinematic experience.

The 12-acre land, inspired by the "Avatar" movie, opens in Florida in late May at Walt Disney World's Animal Kingdom. It cost a half-billion dollars to build.

The marquee attraction is Flight of Passage, where a 3-D simulator plunges riders into a cinematic world. You feel like you're riding on the back of a banshee, a bluish, gigantic, winged predator that resembles something out of the Jurassic era. Wearing 3-D glasses and straddling what resembles a stationary motorcycle, you're strapped in, then the lights go out, a screen in front lights up and you're swooped into a world of blue, gigantic aliens called Na'vi, with moon-filled skies, plunging waterfalls, jumping marine animals and towering ocean waves.

The ride provides an enchanting and intoxicating five minutes that touches all the senses. Blasts of air and spritzes of mist hit your face, and as you fly through a lush forest, a woodsy aroma wafts through your nostrils. A visitor could go on the ride 20 times and not catch half the visual details.

AP

In this Saturday, April 29, 2017 photo, landscaping consisting of real Earth plant species mixed with sculpted Pandora artificial flora is surrounded by ponds and gentle waterfalls at the Pandora-World of Avatar land attraction in Disney's Animal Kingdom theme park at Walt Disney World in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

Disney designers are quick to say the new land is the star of the action, not the backdrop. "The character is being portrayed and played by the place itself and that's different than a set," said Joe Rohde, the design and production leader of Pandora -World of Avatar.

Other aspects of Pandora can't quite compete with the excitement and immersion of Flight of Passage. Much of Pandora, at least during the daytime, is hard to distinguish from the rest of Animal Kingdom, Disney's almost 20-year-old zoological-themed park with lush landscaping, an emphasis on conservation and a Noah's ark range of animals.

At night, though, Pandora transforms into a sea of color with glowing lights on artificial plants and even in the pavement.

The enormous blue Na'vi aliens from the "Avatar" movie appear sparingly, really just on Flight of Passage and a second attraction called Na'vi River Journey. Before going on Flight of Passage, visitors walk through a tunnel in a faux mountain until they stumble upon a laboratory that includes a Na'vi floating in a tank.

"It's not as simple as a guy in a costume painted blue walking around out here," Rohde said of the aliens. "We know they are culturally present around us but we will meet them when we go on an excursion."

The other main attraction, Na'vi River Journey, is an indoor river ride in the dark, lit up by glowing creatures and plants. The ride culminates with a Na'vi animatronic woman beating on drums as a chorus of voices reaches a crescendo. Images of the Na'vi riding horse-like creatures appear behind lush foliage, glimpsed in the distance from the river.

Disney has been building attractions themed on movies since Disneyland opened in 1955 with rides inspired by Snow White, Peter Pan and Alice in Wonderland. Often, as with Pandora, the attractions open years after the movies debut. "Avatar" came out in 2009. Director James Cameron's sequel isn't due out until 2020. Lands based on "Star Wars" are scheduled to open in Disney parks in California and Florida in 2019.

Pandora-World of Avatar isn't tied to a narrative from the film but rather tells a story set in the future, after humans degraded the jungle through industrial folly and a resurgence of nature overtakes the human-built environment. That theme is a recurring architectural motif, for example with a beverage stand and cantina made to look like they were built for industry by humans but then overrun by plant life.

Throughout Pandora, real plants intermingle with artificial plants that resemble alien pods or Dale Chihuly glass sculptures. It's difficult to distinguish what is real.

"We were trying to get as close as possible to fool the eye," said Zsolt Hormay, a Disney creative executive.

At the entrance, visitors hear a cacophony of bird chirps and animal cries. A circle of drums connected to faux tree roots allows visitors to drum and then get a response of drumming or pulsing lights.

The focal points are a 135-foot (41-meter) mountaintop where Flight of Passage is located as well as "floating mountains" that appear to be suspended in air but are actually made of concrete. Engineers use tricks to make the park appear bigger than it is. The artificial foliage gets smaller as it goes higher on the mountain to give it the illusion of distance.

Disney also is testing out a new way to order food at Pandora. Before going to the park, visitors can pull up a menu on the My Disney Experience mobile app, order lunch and go about visiting the park. When it's time to eat hours later, they can go to the canteen, tap on an app a button that notifies the cooks they are present. Several minutes later their food will be ready in a special line.

Jon Landau, executive producer of the original movie, says he hopes Pandora does for visitors what the film did for movie-goers.

"I hope when people come to Pandora and their eyes will be open and they will look at the world a little differently when they go back across the bridge," Landau said.

## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### Novel to ask: What if Hillary Clinton hadn't married Bill?

**NEW YORK** (AP)—A best-selling novelist is imagining how Hillary Clinton's life might have turned out had she never married Bill Clinton. Random House announced Monday that Curtis Sittenfeld will tell the story from the point of view of Hillary Rodham. In real life, the former first lady did turn down Bill Clinton's marriage proposals at first before agreeing to marry. In the novel, not yet titled, she turns down Clinton once and for all, then goes on with her life. No release date was announced. Sittenfeld wrote "American Wife," whose main character was believed to have been loosely based on Laura Bush. Sittenfeld also wrote "Prep," about a Massachusetts prep school. Sci-fi writer William Gibson is writing a novel about Hillary Clinton in which he imagines that she won the presidential election.

### NBC announces its first new sitcom for 2017-18 TV season

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—NBC is giving the nod to a new sitcom starring Glenn Howerton of "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia." NBC said Monday it's ordered the series, titled "A.P. Bio," for next season. It's the first new 2017-18 comedy announced by the network. Howerton plays a philosophy scholar who settles for a job teaching Advanced Placement biology to high school students, but starts scheming. The cast includes Patton Oswalt, with "Saturday Night Live" creator Lorne Michaels among the executive producers. NBC previously announced two drama pickups: "Rise" starring Josh Radner as a dedicated teacher, and military intelligence drama "For God & Country" with Anne Heche. NBC and other networks will present their fall season lineups next week to advertisers in New York.

# Mom takes needless risks following her son's suicide

DEAR ABBY: My fiancee has a death wish. She recently lost her youngest child to suicide. She's in a lot of pain and rarely has a good day. She suffers from PTSD and relives the scene daily in her mind.

She's a hard worker, so that helps to keep her mind off things. She lives in an empty house with nothing there but farm animals, which she says do help to make her happy.

Abby, I'm worried because she does things that put her in danger, like staying at her son's grave alone at night for hours. She told me recently she's planning to go out of state to visit her other son and then spend six days by herself camping and hiking. She also goes jogging alone late at night and leaves her doors unlocked.

It seems she just doesn't care about what may happen. She says don't worry, but I'm terrified that one day something will happen. She's not someone who would put up a fight.

We're recently engaged and I care deeply about her and her safety, but I'm helpless to say anything because she just gets mad. I don't know what to do. Can you maybe help me?

VERY CONCERNED FIANCE IN FLORIDA

**DEAR FIANCE: Your fiancee is in the throes of grief. If she is the person who discovered her son's body, she may be numb with shock and not thinking clearly.**

**It is not unusual for people who have lost a loved one—particularly a child—to wonder if life is still worth living and to engage either consciously or subconsciously in risk-taking behavior. A licensed psychotherapist or a suicide support group could help her to recognize what she's doing and to get through this. Seeing others who have experienced what she has and who are further along in the grieving process would be helpful.**

**If she's resistant to the idea, offer to go with her. The American Federation for Suicide Prevention (afsp.org) can help you find resources in your state.**

**DEAR ABBY:** The husbands of both my two daughters asked for my blessing prior to asking my girls to marry them. I felt what they did was respectful and it was very much appreciated. My wife felt the same way when I relayed the good news to her.

I believe this courtesy replaced what in the "olden days" was a request for PERMISSION from the father rather than a blessing and, in my opinion, is more appropriate. If I am correct in my assumption that "permission" has evolved to "blessing," I wonder if it would have been more appropriate for them to have asked my wife and me together for our blessing. Your thoughts?

PROUD PAPA

## DEAR ABBY

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

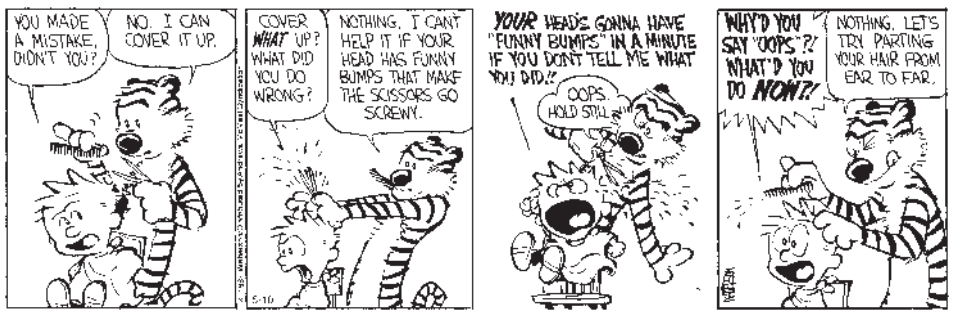
**DEAR PROUD PAPA: Men asked permission of fathers to marry their daughters in "olden days" because the daughters were considered property. They could not marry without their father's consent. Thankfully, those customs are long gone—in western society, at least. Please stop second-guessing your sons-in-law, who both seem like gems to me. Many couples today forgo the courtesy altogether.**

*Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


YOU MADE A MISTAKE, DIDN'T YOU?
NO. I CAN COVER IT UP.
COVER WHAT UP? WHAT DID YOU DO WRONG?
NOTHING. I CAN'T HELP IT IF YOUR HEAD HAS FUNNY BUMPS THAT MAKE THE SCISSORS GO SCREWY.
YOUR HEAD'S GONNA HAVE "FUNNY BUMPS" IN A MINUTE IF YOU DON'T TELL ME WHAT YOU DID!
OOPS. HOLD STILL.
WHY'D YOU SAY "OOPS"?! WHAT'D YOU DO NOW?
NOTHING. LET'S TRY PARTING YOUR HAIR FROM EAR TO EAR.

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

HEY, KATY. WANT SOME COMPANY?
SURE! AREN'T YOU WORKING TODAY?
NOPE. I GOT ALL OF MY JOBS DONE.
SO, YOU'RE UNEMPLOYED.
ARE WE GONNA DRINK TEA OR ARE WE GONNA YAP ALL DAY?

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

YOU SHOULD HAVE CLOBBERED THAT.
IT WAS UNHITTABLE.
I MEAN, HE'S PUTTING SOMETHING FUNKY ON HIS PITCHES.
HE TOSSED YOU A BEACH BALL.
A CURVE BEACH BALL!

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

**ACROSS**
1 Peruse
5 Lumber unit
8 Taj Mahal city
12 "Rule, Britannia!" composer
13 Street address?
14 Ship's front
15 "Excellent work!"
17 Authentic
18 Houston player
19 Fingerpaints
21 Squad
24 Superlative suffix
25 Unuttered "alas"
28 Booty
30 Watch chain
33 Tire filler
34 About, date-wise
35 Family card game
36 Golfer Michelle
37 Beehive State
38 Winter blanket
39 Nile biter
41 Pork cut
43 Dense
46 High-pitched flutes
50 Blue
51 Large primate
54 Flair
55 Sit-up targets
56 Manitoba tribe
57 Golfer McIlroy
58 Quick swim
59 Tackled weeds

**DOWN**
1 Sitar music
2 Messes up
3 "Without —" (Grateful Dead album)
4 Lack
5 JFK's veep
6 Granada gold
7 Oodles
8 — -ski
9 Highly entertaining
10 Bellow
11 Piercing tools
16 Water tester
20 Transcending (Pref.)
22 Landed
23 Aesopian ending
25 Witnessed
26 Sundial numeral
27 Global conflict of 1914-1918
29 Twice cuatro
31 Lennon's lady
32 Fiddle stick
34 Coffee servings
38 Tattletale
40 Optimistic
42 "— tree falls ..."
43 Baltic Sea feeder
44 Cowboy's neckwear
45 "Zounds!"
47 Gambling game
48 Duel tool
49 Burpee buy
52 Hitter's stat
53 Kreskin's claim

Solution time: 23 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | U | N | S | ■ | B | U | C | ■ | H | E | A | M |
| A | S | I | A | ■ | E | P | A | ■ | H | A | V | E |
| H | O | L | D | D | E | A | R | ■ | Y | V | E | S |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | D | I | P | ■ | O | A | T | E | R | S |
| S | H | A | L | E | ■ | S | U | C | H | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| I | A | H | E | ■ | C | A | S | H | M | E | H | E |
| I | _ | L | ■ | A | L | B | E | E | ■ | V | I | M |
| R | O | O | T | B | E | E | R | ■ | H | I | L | T |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | A | L | A | R | ■ | C | E | _ | L | S |
| B | I | G | B | F | N | ■ | ■ | I | F | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| O | N | E | L | ■ | S | A | M | E | I | I | E | R | E |
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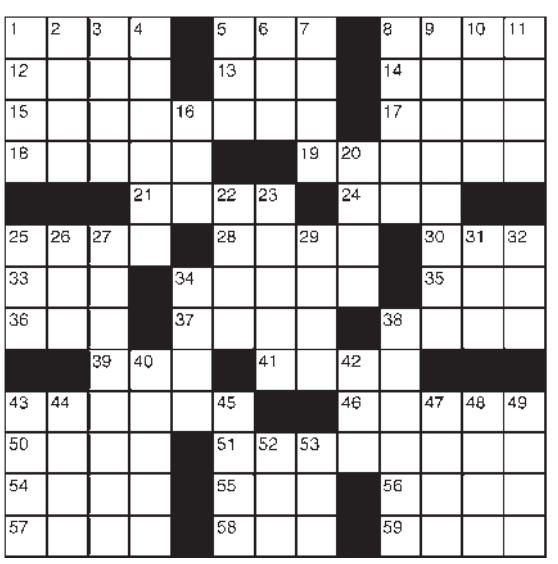
| S | H | E | D | ■ | D | I | X | ■ | W | O | N | K |

Yesterday's answer 5-10



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Steve Yzerman, 52; John Corbett, 56; Billy Joel, 68; Candice Bergen, 71.

**Happy Birthday:** Keep an open mind. The more accepting you are, the easier it will be to get what you want in return. Let your creative imagination take you on a journey that encourages you to try new things. Serious negotiations will transpire if you are clear about what you want. Stick to important issues, keep your life simple and you will excel. Your numbers are 6, 14, 20, 26, 32, 35, 42.

**ARIES** *(March 21-April 19):* Show sensitivity when dealing with relationship issues. Someone you love will take any negativity as a personal assault. Look for the right moment and find a diplomatic way to discuss any grievances you have. Choose harmony over discord. ✪✪✪

**TAURUS** *(April 20-May 20):* You can bring about change if you are adamant about what you want. Express your desires explicitly, but not with force or anger, and you will grab the support and attention you need to follow through with your plans. ✪✪✪

**GEMINI** *(May 21-June 20):* Take part in the events going on in your community or that include young family members. What you discover by being a participant will encourage you to get more involved in the activities available to you. Practice mindfulness. ✪✪✪

**CANCER** *(June 21-July 22):* Think about the desired result before you begin something new. It's important to use your intuition and proceed with a plan in mind that ensures that you get the results you want. Don't take unnecessary risks. ✪✪✪✪✪

**LEO** *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Confusion over domestic issues concerning health, cash flow or a pending settlement will surface. Don't let emotions take over. Consider your best recourse and start heading in that direction. Personal improvements will give you the boost needed to conquer a challenge. ✪✪

**VIRGO** *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Put more effort into important partnerships. Use your ingenuity to find a way to work your way into someone's plans. Whether personal or professional gains are your motive, the way you go about it will make a difference. ✪✪✪✪

**LIBRA** *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Put everything you've got into your professional goals. Send out resumes or set up interviews. Make a point to step up and offer your suggestions, and you will have a better chance to turn your vocational dream into something viable. ✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Try something different. Let your creative imagination help you find the perfect outlet for your skills and talents. Looking at how people from different cultures approach things will help you find the best way to move forward. ✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* The input you offer will be listened to and rewarded. Helping your peers will give you a chance to gain experience. Air your opinions and make suggestions that will encourage others to contribute. Use intelligence instead of force. ✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* You'll face opposition if you overreact or try to push your ideas on someone. Go about your business and do what has to be done. Once you have perfected your plan and executed it with precision, you will get a better reception. ✪✪

**AQUARIUS** *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Look over your financial papers or contracts and make adjustments. Keep the upper hand when dealing with money, legal settlements or health issues. Taking control will give you the opportunity to get what you want. Romance is favored. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Take a different approach to the way you use your money or negotiate a contract. Put your heart and soul into your plans and don't let anyone take over or convince you to take on too much. ✪✪✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby:** You are intense, vibrant and changeable. You are inventive and thoughtful.

*Eugenia's websites -- eugenialast.com for Ask Eugenia, daily timing and compatibility services, and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.*

## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** By Dave

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 7 | 1 | 9 | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | 8 | | 2 | 7 | |
| 2 | | | 5 | | 7 | | | |
| 6 | | 2 | | 5 | 3 | | | |
| | 9 | | 4 | 2 | | 5 | | |
| | | 5 | 7 | | 8 | 6 | | |
| | 5 | | | 7 | 4 | | 1 | 6 |
| | 2 | | | | | 3 | 9 | |
| | | | | | | 7 | | |

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/10

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 1 |
| 8 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 5 |
| 1 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| 5 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 4 |
| 4 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| 6 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 8 |
| 3 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 9 |
| 9 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 2 |
| 2 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 3 |

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

**2017 MARCH MADNESS: NORTH CAROLINA WINS!** Sol.: 8 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | C | M | L | T | W | H | I | T | E | V | E | T | S | G |
| E | O | A | E | A | S | T | I | L | M | A | N | Y | O | R |
| N | N | R | O | H | L | M | A | N | N | O | S | N | I | P |
| S | F | Y | J | A | C | K | S | O | N | A | Z | R | U | R |
| D | E | L | L | A | B | T | E | K | S | A | B | R | O | R |
| O | R | A | I | S | A | I | A | H | G | B | D | B | O | O |
| O | E | N | O | R | A | A | E | A | E | U | I | L | A | C |
| W | N | D | H | E | K | A | B | R | E | N | Y | E | A | K |
| H | C | O | K | E | R | U | R | M | S | A | E | E | C | Y |
| T | E | U | N | U | L | Y | A | O | B | K | E | W | N | E |
| N | L | N | S | L | S | Y | N | O | T | K | C | A | S | L |
| E | Y | H | D | K | E | L | D | J | U | S | T | I | N | D |
| V | S | O | E | T | H | E | O | D | E | E | S | S | H | A |
| E | G | E | Y | D | E | N | N | E | K | A | N | L | E | R |
| S | M | A | I | L | L | I | W | I | N | T | T | I | R | B |

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Aaron, Basketball, Baylor, Berry, Best, Bradley, Brandon, Britt, Bulldogs, Coker, Conference, Duke, East, Gonzaga, Hicks, Isaiah, Jackson, Joel, Justin, Kanler, Kennedy, Kenny, Luke, Maryland, Maye, Meeks, Men's, Nate, NCAA, News, Pinson, Purdue, Robinson, Rock, Rohlman, Roy, Seed, Seventh Woods, Shea Rush, Steve, Stilman, Theo, Tony, White, Williams, Win

**Yesterday's Answer: The Gong Show**

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## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**POSITION TITLE:** Program Coordinator

**SCHEDULE:** Full-Time
7:30am-4:30pm

**OPENING DATE:** May 3, 2017

**CLOSING DATE:** May 19, 2017

**ADDRESS:** Family Violence Task Force
c/o P. O. Box 503019
Saipan, MP 96950

**PHYSICAL LOCATION:**
Lugat Pas Office
Yap Court Building#1233
Capitol Hill

**SALARY:** $30,000 per annum

**Job Summary:**
**This position is under the supervision of the Chairperson of the Family Violence Task Force (FVTF) in accordance with the Bylaws of the CNMI FVTF.**

**The Program Coordinator is responsible in providing administrative support for the FVTF members to improve interagency communications and to address the issues of domestic and family violence, teen dating violence, sexual assault and stalking by a family or a household member including coordinated efforts to provide multi-disciplinary response services.**

**QUALIFICATIONS:**
**College graduate (BA/BS) with major in social work, administration, social sciences or related field. Equivalent education or experience considered. At least four years' experience working in social services. The applicant must have working knowledge with computers as well as experience in database management and administration of local or wide area networks. Experience in community organization preferred.**

**Note: The application form must be filled out in full and failure to provide complete application form or the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.**

**Interested applicants should pick up an application form together with the job description at the Lugat Pas Office on Capitol Hill Yap Court Building #1233. Application and Resume must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on the closing date. All applicants must turn in a completed and signed application for consideration. For more information, please visit or call our office at (670) 664-4583.**

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## ANNOUNCEMENT OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**Opening Date: May 10, 2017**
**Closing Date: June 8, 2017**

**Position:** **Accountant I**
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*(Starting salary will be determined by the qualifications of the appointee.)*

**Job Location:** **NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950**

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI and austerity holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Thursday, June 8, 2017, **OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED** no later than June 8, 2017, to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/
**JESSE S. PALACIOS**
Corporate Director

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# Curry's 30 lead Warriors to sweep after win over Jazz

**SALT LAKE CITY** (AP)—The Splash Brothers provided the fast start, and the Golden State Warriors made it a quick finish to the second round.

They're four wins from another NBA Finals appearance, and so far nobody can slow them down.

Stephen Curry scored 30 points and the Warriors completed a second-round sweep of the Utah Jazz with a 121-95 victory Monday night.

"We have a lot of talent," Curry said. "We never know who is going to have a hot night.

"We try to move the ball, use each other to create open shots and when we do that, the ball is hopping and a lot of good things happen."

The defending Western Conference champions have won both their series in four games and now await the winner of the Rockets-Spurs series that is tied at 2-2.

The Warriors kept pace with defending champion Cleveland in what has appeared like an inevitable third straight NBA Finals matchup. Both teams are 8-0 thus far.

"Steph was Steph and we fed off him," Warriors interim head coach Mike Brown said.

Brown said before the game he hoped his team would get out to a fast start and the Warriors did exactly that. Golden State led 39-17 at the end of the first quarter after an onslaught from Klay Thompson and Curry. They combined to shoot 6 for 8 in the opening period.

AP

Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry, left, goes to the basket as Utah Jazz center Rudy Gobert (27) defends in the first half during Game 4 of the NBA basketball second-round playoff series Monday, May 8, 2017, in Salt Lake City.

Thompson finished with 21, Kevin Durant scored 18 and Draymond Green posted his third career postseason triple-double with 17 points, 10 rebounds and 11 assists.

Gordon Hayward led the Jazz with 25 points and Shelvin Mack chipped in 18.

"The most important thing was we imposed our will on the game and we had the game at our pace," Green said.

Curry entered the game averaging 26.7 points in the playoffs, but Thompson had struggled against the Jazz. That ended Monday.

Thompson rebounded from a six-point effort in Game 3 with back-to-back jumpers out the gate. Curry then drained consecutive 3s and the rout was on.

The Jazz started 3 for 16 from the field as Golden State hit from all areas and finished shooting 57.1 percent in the first quarter.

Curry picked up right where he left off after an 11-point fourth quarter in Game 3 with a 14-point first quarter. He, Thompson and Green combined for 29 points in that first 12 minutes.

The Jazz tried to put off their vacation. They used a 14-0 run early in the second quarter, sparked by the suddenly active Dante Exum and Derrick Favors, to cut the lead to 10 points. Utah closed the half with a 12-2 run to trail 60-52 at halftime, but every time the Jazz made a significant run the rest of the way, the Warriors answered and pushed the lead back to double digits.

The Jazz never led Monday and in three of the four games against the Warriors.

Utah ended a four-year playoff drought. Hayward developed into an All-Star and Rudy Gobert became a Defensive Player of the Year candidate. The addition of veterans George Hill, Joe Johnson and Boris Diaw to the young corps of Hayward, Gobert, Favors, Hood and Joe Ingles turned into the team's first second-round appearance since 2010.

"It's been a unique arc for us," Jazz coach Quin Snyder said. "The adversity that kind of continued to rear its head and the way these guys dealt with it. It was apropos tonight.

"What happened, happened. We got blitzed."

## Thomas lobbies for calls with Celtics-Wizards series tied

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Isaiah Thomas feels as though he was shut down by the Washington Wizards and the referees in Game 4.

Thomas said after the Boston Celtics' 121-102 loss Sunday that the officiating needs to change as the second-round series continues after the Wizards played him hard in holding him to two points after the first 15 minutes.

"They were very physical. The refs were allowing them to hold and grab and do all those things," Thomas said. "It's got to be called differently. ... I can't be allowed to be held and grabbed every pin-down, every screen and I don't even shoot one free throw. I play the same way each and every night. That has to change."

Thomas acknowledged that the Wizards' 26-0 third-quarter run was the reason for the result, not the officiating. But with the series returning to Boston for Game 5 on Wednesday, he began to lobby for more calls after not going to the free throw line once.

The 5-foot-9 All-Star guard had 53 points in the Celtics' Game 2 overtime victory and was bottled up with 13 and 19 in Washington. He started Game 4 shooting 5 for 5 from 3-point territory with 17 points and was held to two more on 1-of-7 shooting the rest of the way.

"They obviously were locked into him the whole game, but obviously more so after the barrage of 3s," Celtics coach Brad Stevens said, crediting the Wizards for switching and sticking on Thomas off pick-and-rolls. "They were really up into him."

Being physical was the plan with Thomas, Wizards guard Bradley Beal said. Coach Scott Brooks complimented his big men for keeping their hands up to avoid fouling Thomas, but Beal was more than willing to make contact when necessary.

"Our goal is just take him out of the game and just continue to be physical with him," Beal said. "He runs around the floor all day, I've been chasing him all first half. I just wanted to come in and just be physical with him."

Containing Thomas is no easy task. Games 3 and 4 marked the first time in his NBA career that he fell short of 20 points back to back. When he had five quick 3s Sunday, it looked like another opportunity for Thomas to take over and potentially put Boston on the verge of facing the Cleveland Cavaliers in the Eastern Conference final.

"We made quite a few mistakes early," Brooks said. "We can't have that. If you do, it's what you see: a 3, a 3, a drive, a 3, a 3, a drive. You have to be able to execute our game plan, and with that even being said it's not a guarantee that he's going to miss shots. ... He had wide-open looks and they made an adjustment and I think we did a good job of figuring that out."

The onus is now on Thomas and the Celtics to adjust back for Game 5 and beyond. He said it was up to his team to make the Wizards pay for giving him so much attention. But as they do that, he also wants a few whistles.

"I'm just going to keep fighting," Thomas said. "If they're going to allow them to be aggressive on me and physical on me, they should allow me to do the same thing back and I felt like (Sunday) I wanted to be physical on the defensive end and I was called for some cheap ones. But there's no excuse. Just got to figure it out."

## Spurs, Rockets try to wake up NBA's sleepy second round

**By BRIAN MAHONEY**
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Maybe San Antonio and Houston can still salvage the second round.

Their series, just like the other three in the NBA's conference semifinals, hasn't provided much in the way of must-see moments. No need to stay up late for a frantic finish when the outcomes are decided so early.

But the Spurs and Rockets did play four tight games in the regular season, with three decided by two-point margins. So perhaps there's still drama ahead, starting Tuesday in Game 5 in San Antonio with the teams tied 2-2.

Often the pivotal game in a best-of-seven series, maybe it's the one to bring out the best in both teams at the same time. For some reason, it hasn't happened in Texas - or really anywhere else in May.

"I wish I was that smart and I could figure that out," Rockets coach Mike D'Antoni said. "I don't know. We made shots, don't make shots. I guess when both teams start making shots you'll get it close."

It's been blowout basketball all over the second round, where Cleveland didn't even trail in the fourth quarter against Toronto until it was in the midst of finishing a sweep Sunday with a 109-102 victory. That was the first game of the entire round decided by single digits—even the overtime game between Boston and Washington in Game 2 of their series ended with a 10-point victory for the Celtics.

The games have been so non-competitive down the stretch that the NBA hasn't needed to generate a Last 2 Minutes report for any game except that one in Boston. During the postseason, the league issues the officiating reviews for all games within three points at any stage in the last two minutes of the fourth quarter, or the last two minutes of any overtime period.

The starters have largely been on the bench and the fans on the way to their cars by late in the fourth quarter.

This series has featured Houston victories by 27 and 21, while the Spurs took the two games in between by 25 and 11. That's nothing like the type of basketball they played against each other during the season series, when the Spurs outscored the Rockets by an average of 104.8-102.8 while winning by six, two and two.

"I mean, it's crazy. I've never seen nothing like that," Rockets guard Eric Gordon said. "It's all about tempo. When you slow the game down, it almost kind of favors them. And when you play fast, it favors us. I think now we have kind of really figured out what needs to happen and what we need to do to win."

The Spurs bounced back fine after getting clobbered in the opener and will try to do so again following Houston's 125-104 victory on Sunday.

# Yankees pull all-nighter, beat Reds, 10-4

**CINCINNATI** (AP)—Brett Gardner and Matt Holliday homered, Masahiro Tanaka won his fifth consecutive start, and the New York Yankees shook off a long game and a short night's sleep, beating the Cincinnati Reds 10-4 on Monday for their sixth victory in a row.

The Yankees have the best record in the majors at 21-9 and are 12 games over .500 for the first time since the end of the 2015 season.

Their biggest challenge was overcoming the fatigue from an 18-inning, 5-4 win at Wrigley Field early Monday. The Yankees didn't land in the Cincinnati area until 5:08 a.m., and the sun was up when some of them finally fell asleep. Players sipped caffeinated drinks and yawned in the clubhouse pregame.

Tanaka (5-1) gave them what they needed after their all-nighter, going seven innings on 112 pitches to rest the bullpen. He allowed four runs—Joey Votto drove in three with a single and a homer—while ending the Reds' five-game winning streak.

Gary Sanchez got the Yankees going with his bases-loaded single in the first off Rookie Davis (1-2), a former Yankees prospect. Didi Gregorius also drove in a pair off Davis, who went to the Reds in the trade for closer Aroldis Chapman after the 2015 season.

Gardner and Holliday connected in the eighth inning as the Yankees pulled away.

There were some sloppy moments for the AL East leaders. The Yankees committed a pair of errors in the infield and had a runner thrown out at second base while tagging on a flyout.

Manager Joe Girardi gave Aaron Judge and Starlin Castro a day out of the starting lineup, and he'll give a couple more players some rest on Tuesday to help them fully recover from the 6-hour, 5-minute game in Chicago.

## Orioles 6, Nationals 4

In Baltimore, Trey Mancini capped a three-homer binge in the first inning against Gio Gonzalez as Baltimore beat Washington for its season-high fifth straight victory.

Kevin Gausman (2-3) limited baseball's most potent offense to two runs over seven innings. He retired the first 10 batters and struck out eight in his longest outing of the year.

Joey Rickard hit a lead-off homer and Mark Trumbo added a solo shot before Mancini connected with a runner on to make it 4-0. The Orioles hold a 37-24 advantage over their neighboring rivals in the so-called "Beltway Series," which began in 2006.

Caleb Joseph had a career high-tying four hits for the Orioles. Baltimore (21-10) owns the second-best record in the majors behind the AL East-leading New York Yankees.

Bryce Harper homered and drove in two runs for the Nationals.

After the Orioles let a six-run cushion shrink to three, Brad Brach worked the ninth for his eighth save. After Brach gave up a one-out RBI double to former Oriole Matt Wieters, pinch-runner Trea Turner strayed too far from second base on a groundout to first and the game ended with a rundown in which Adam Lind was tagged out between third and home.

Gonzalez (3-1) came in with a National League-leading 1.64 ERA for the team with the best record in the NL.

## Blue Jays 4, Indians 2

In Toronto, Marcus Stroman pitched six shutout innings and Kevin Pillar made a sensational catch in center field as Toronto beat Cleveland in a playoff rematch.

Ryan Goins hit a two-run homer and Justin Smoak added a two-run single as the Blue Jays beat the team that eliminated them from last year's AL Championship Series.

Former Blue Jays slugger Edwin Encarnacion, who signed a $60 million, three-year contract with Cleveland last winter, received a warm welcome and a video tribute in his return to Toronto. Encarnacion got a standing ovation before his first at-bat and went 2 for 3 with a walk.

Pillar made the defensive play of the game — perhaps the season — in the sixth, diving on the warning track in center to catch a deep drive by Jose Ramirez and strand runners at second and third.

The remarkable grab was one of several plays that helped Stroman (3-2) escape jams. Toronto turned inning-ending double plays in the second, fourth and fifth.

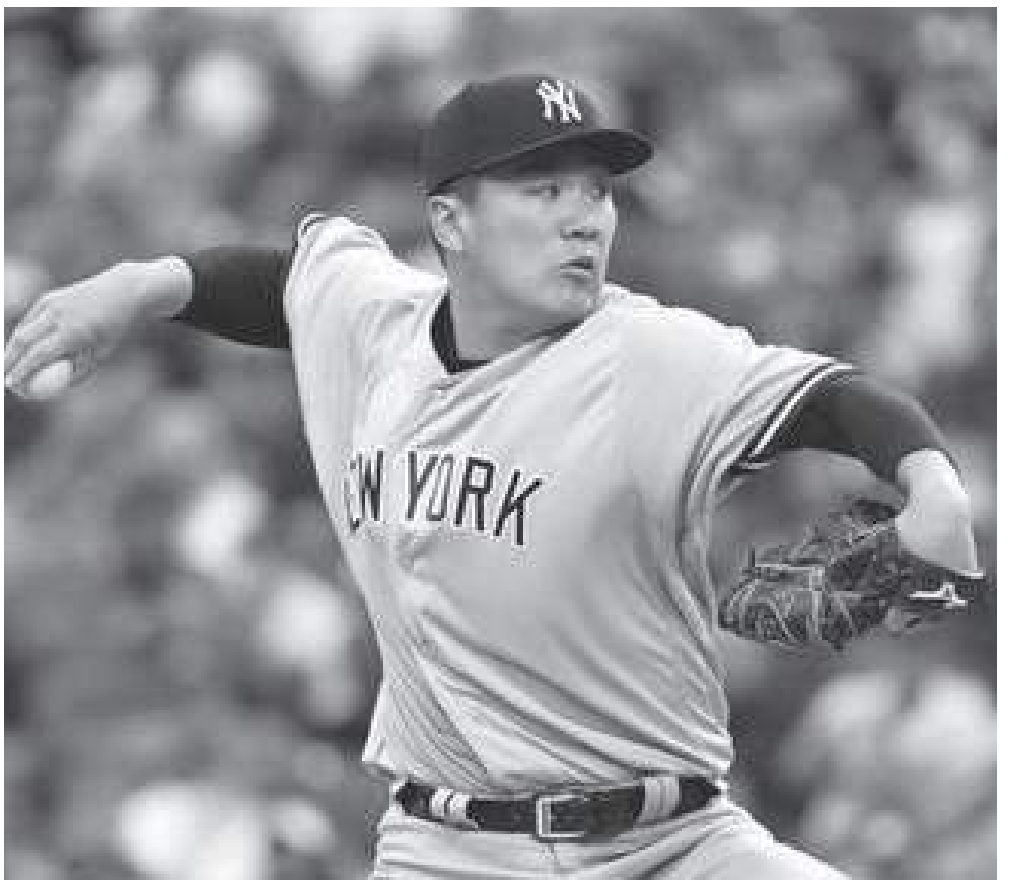
Goins hit a two-out homer off Trevor Bauer (2-4) in the second.

Roberto Osuna finished for his fifth save.

## Royals 7, Rays 3

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Nate Karns struck out 10 while pitching into the seventh inning and Eric Hosmer had three hits as Kansas City busted out of an offensive slump to beat Tampa Bay.

Kansas City matched its best run output of the year and set a season high with 13 hits.



AP

New York Yankees starting pitcher Masahiro Tanaka throws in the first inning of a baseball game against the Cincinnati Reds, Monday, May 8, 2017, in Cincinnati.

Drew Butera homered and drove in his first two runs of the season, helping the Royals win for the fourth time in 17 games.

Karns (2-2) allowed two runs in 6 1/3 innings.

Blake Snell (0-3) yielded four runs and 10 hits over five innings. He failed to get an out in the sixth for the 10th time in his last 11 starts.

## Mets 4, Giants 3

In New York, Neil Walker hit a game-ending single with two outs in the ninth inning as the New York Mets put turmoil aside to beat reeling San Francisco.

Michael Conforto scored for New York's first walk-off win this season, giving the Mets their seventh victory in 10 games. Jeurys Familia (1-0) needed just five pitches in a perfect ninth, finishing a five-hitter started by Jacob deGrom, who struck out 11 in six innings.

Hunter Pence and Buster Posey homered for San Francisco. Josh Osich (0-1) took the loss.

New York has been dealing with drama all homestand, from an injury that will likely keep star pitcher Noah Syndergaard out until after the All-Star break to a suspension of pitcher Matt Harvey, who failed to show up for a game.

The Giants, who have lost five of six, were playing at Citi Field for the first time since beating the Mets 3-0 last Oct. 5 in the NL wild-card game.

## Cardinals 9, Marlins 4

In Miami, Cardinals ace Carlos Martinez drove in four runs, compensating for the two homers he gave up to Marcell Ozuna and leading St. Louis over Miami for its season-best fourth straight win.

Martinez (2-3) came into the game hitless this year. He hit a two-out, three-run double off Adam Conley (2-3) in the second inning and singled home a run in the fourth.

Martinez struck out seven in six innings and finally received some run support. Miguel Socolovich pitched three innings to earn his first career save.

Miami's Giancarlo Stanton hit his 11th homer in the ninth, his third shot in two days. Ozuna also has 11 homers.

Matt Carpenter had a two-run triple for the Cardinals, who have won seven consecutive road games.

Marlins manager Don Mattingly was ejected for arguing balls and strikes after Martinez struck out the side in the second.

## Athletics 3, Angels 2, 11 innings

In Oakland, California, Jed Lowrie hit his second home run of the game with two outs in the 11th inning to help Oakland beat Los Angeles for its third straight walk-off win.

Lowrie got Oakland on the board with a solo shot in the fourth inning and ended it with a drive to right field off Deolis Guerra (2-2). The win followed two dramatic comebacks against Detroit. The Athletics have three consecutive walk-off wins for the first time since June 2004.

Liam Hendricks (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings as the A's won for the fourth time in five games.

Trevor Plouffe also homered for Oakland. Luis Valbuena hit an early two-run shot for the Angels.

## Padres 5, Rangers 1

In San Diego, Trevor Cahill and three relievers held Texas to two hits, and Ryan Schimpf, Austin Hedges and Cory Spangenberg homered to lift San Diego out of a four-game losing streak.

Cahill (3-2) allowed one hit in 5 1/3 scoreless innings to win his third straight decision over four starts. The right-hander struck out seven and walked five.

Padres reliever Brad Hand allowed Shin-Soo Choo's solo homer in the seventh.

Nick Martinez (0-2) gave up four runs in six innings.

## Dodgers 12, Pirates 1

In Los Angeles, Chris Taylor hit a grand slam during a six-run first inning and Alex Wood and a pair of Los Angeles relievers combined for 17 strikeouts as the Dodgers rolled over Pittsburgh.

Yasiel Puig added a solo homer in the first as the Dodgers jumped all over Trevor Williams (1-2), who was filling in for Jameson Taillon after he had surgery Monday for suspected testicular cancer.

In his fourth start, Wood (3-0) threw five scoreless innings, holding the Pirates to two hits and a walk while striking out a season-high 11. Ross Stripling fanned five over three innings and Adam Liberatore added a strikeout in the ninth.

# After late, late show with Yankees, Cubs get needed break

**DENVER** (AP)—Kris Bryant was in a race to beat the rising sun. He won, too, with his head hitting the hotel pillow in Denver moments before daybreak.

A well-earned victory for the Chicago Cubs third baseman after a draining 5-4, 18-inning loss to the New York Yankees in a game that lasted 6 hours, 5 minutes and spilled into Monday morning. By innings, it was the longest interleague game in major league history.

Now, the Cubs get a chance to kick back and unwind—before another grueling day.

The game Monday with Colorado was postponed by rain and will be made up as part of a split doubleheader on Tuesday. There was so much hail before the game that it had to be swept off the tarp and the sprinklers turned on to melt the ice in the outfield grass.

There's no rest for the Yankees, who arrived in Cincinnati after a short flight from Chicago at 5:08 a.m. and wound up beating the Reds 10-4.

Just part of the game.

"As rough as it was yesterday, it's kind of cool to experience it, just to have that story in your pocket and to say, 'Look, we played 18 innings, got in (early), had to play in Colorado and there's a hail storm,'" Bryant said. "It's crazy."

The Cubs got to the ballpark a little later than usual. Coffee was the sought-after refreshment in the clubhouse and a seat on the sofa was a coveted commodity.

"I feel surprisingly good," Bryant said.

Maybe his plan worked. Bryant purposely didn't sleep on the plane so he would be completely worn out when they arrived at the team hotel. Keeping his eyes open proved difficult after Chicago's longest home game since an 8-7 loss in 18 innings on Sept. 2, 1986, against Houston—a contest that was actually suspended and finished the next day.

"I've never been the type to pull an all-nighter in college, studying, or stay out super late," Bryant said. "Anytime I experience anything like that, it's so weird for me."

# Easy wins for Swip, Stephen's Pawnshop

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Swip Water and Stephen's Pawnshop coasted past their respective opponents in the 2017 San Antonio Summer Basketball League last Friday at the San Antonio court.

Swip Water broke away in the third quarter en route to a 91-81 victory over Armatech in the curtain-raiser, while Stephen's Pawnshop outgunned Arianne Fish Mart in a high-scoring second game, 112-94. Stephen's Pawnshop got its fifth win in seven games, while Arianne Fish Mart absorbed its fourth loss against two three victories. Swip Water shared Arianne's 3-4 mark, while late entry Armatech fell to a 1-1 slate.

Ahead by only a deuce at halftime, 40-38, Swip Water enundated Armatech with one basket after another to take a 74-59 lead at the end of the third canto. Jun Alipio Jr. and Jun Tabora teamed up in the Swim Water surge as they scored 10 points apiece in the penultimate frame.

The 15-point margin gave Swip Water enough cushion against Armatech's rally in the final period.

Tabora paced Swip Water with his 19 points, while Alipio chipped in 18. Three other Swip Water players scored in twin digits, while Jerome Malasarte carried the load for Armatech with his 29 markers.

In the second game, Sean Rabasto, Jack Aranda, and Matt Duenas were on fire for Stephen's Pawnshop, as each scored 20-plus points to help their team past the century mark.

Rabasto sizzled for 29 points, while Aranda and Duenas contributed 25 and 22, respectively. With the trio hitting their targets, Stephen's Pawnshop posted double-digit lead at the end of each quarters.

Rabasto and Duenas made 10 points apiece in the first quarter, lifting Stephen's Pawnshop to a 29-19 advantage. Duenas and Rabasto were then held to two field goals in the second canto, but Aranda was there to keep things in order for Stephen's Pawnshop, tallying 7 points. Mii Tekopua also helped out, logging 8 of his 11 points in the second frame that ended with Stephen's Pawnshop still up by 10, 53-43. Aranda then teamed up with Duenas and Rabasto in the second half to beat Arianne gunner Elgene Mangali and Ken Viray.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Stephen's Pawnshop's Jack Aranda drives against two Arianne's Fish Mark defenders during the second quarter of their game in the San Antonio summer caging last Friday at the San Antonio court.

### First Game

**Swip Water 91** – J. Tabora 19, Alipio Jr. 18, Kintz 15, Moises 13, Tabora Jr. 11, Rueda 9, Alipio Sr. 4, Reyes 2.

**Armatech 81** – J. Malasarte 29, Asuhan 15, Chavez 14, M. Babauta 8, Guevarra 7, Tolosa 6, Zapata 5.

**Scoring by quarters:** 25-20, 40-38, 74-59, 91-81.

### Second Game

**Stephen's Pawnshop 112** – Rabasto 29, Jack Aranda 25, Matt Duenas 22, Guzman 13, Flores 12, Tekopua 11.

**Arianne Fish Mart 94** – Mangali 24, Viray 18, Guiang 14, Villacrusis 11, Inos 9, Sanguyo 6, Mungcal 4, Bongolan 4, R. Usi 3.

**Scoring by quarters:** 29-19, 53-43, 81-66, 112-94.

## BRILLIANT

*From Page 28*

in at 18.47 seconds in the 100m qualifier and 37.70 seconds in the 200m run, while Newman's qualifying times in the 100m and 200m were 16.02 second and 36.71 seconds, respectively. In the boys U11, Hopwood and WSR had a split with the Hilitai's Josh Tereyama getting the best time in the 10m (13.00 seconds) and the Kingfishers' Stone Smith posting the fastest mark in the 200m (35.00 seconds).

In the middle distance 400m, Sikkel again topped the U7 field with his 1:22.31, while WSR's Tyler Omelau (1:28.87) and Hopwood's Travis Kaipat (1:13.49) stood out in the U9 and U11 age groups, respectively. Sikkel made it five in a row as he also had the best time in the 800m (3:00.20), while WSR's Paul Lizama (3:24.38) and Whispering Palms' Dylan Mister (3:06.17) led the way for the U9 and U11 divisions.

Sikkel went on to complete his domination in the U7 trials as he ruled the softball throw qualifier after registering 20.6m. He was the lone competitor in his age group to have at least a 20m heave, while the 28.25m of his schoolmate Casey Chambers reigned supreme in the U9 division. In the U11 category, Smith's 33.24m bested the record of an SIS student and three WSR bets.

In the girls 60m trials, the top qualifiers were BSS' Serin Chung (U11), Oleai's Jia Ross Nicdao (9), and WSR's Lyanah Omelau (U7).

Other top finishers in the series of qualifiers that Northern Marianas Athletics held late last month and early this May were BSS' Savita Sikkel (U9), Oleai's Tinaly Litulumar (U11), and SIS' Yuknap Zheung (U7) in the 100m; Yoon Li of SCS (U7), Savita (U9), and Chung (U11) in the 200m; Litulumar (U11), Savita (U9), and Omelau (U7) in the 400m; Agape's Mary Fu (U7) and Elvira Zhang (U11) and Savita (U9) in the 800m; and WSR' Mika Rose Naanep (U9), and Whispering Palms' Helen Kim (U11) in the 1,500m run.

For the softball throw, there were also two familiar names in Savita (18.2m) and Omelau (7.24m), while the latter's schoolmate Elena Palacios (23.97m) rounded out the top finisher in the trials.

Six qualifiers from Saipan schools and one each from Tinian and Rota will race in the All Schools meet's running events, while the field events have no limit. There are also separate competitions in running, jumping, and throwing events for middle and high school students.

## MPU

*From Page 28*

57th minute, as he received another pass from Abragan and went for a shot in front of TanHoldings goalie John Joseph Bucayo. The TanHoldings keeper chose to leave his spot and moved forward in a bid to prevent Tenorio from kicking the ball, but the latter had a quick release with the leather going above the head of Bucayo and dropping into the net.

That has been the story of the rubber match with MP United taking chances on hurried shots before TanHoldings' defense set in and the latter showing reluctance on offense.

Ahead at 2-1, with time on its side, MP United put icing on the cake when Edwin Kim nailed a penalty kick off a handball from TanHoldings in the 62nd minute. A goal from Tekopua off a free kick from Anthony Fruit in the 68th minute pegged the final score.

With the title win, MP United extended its reign in the boys U17 division. It swept the Spring and Fall seasons of the division last year, making the club the only winner in the age group since Northern Mariana Islands Football Association switched from the boys U18 to the U17 format.

The victory was also a sort of sweet revenge for MP United, which was denied an outright claim to the division championship by TanHoldings after the latter won the last regular season game, 1-0. MP United and TanHoldings ended up with similar 7-0-1 win-draw-loss record to set up the playoff match.

"After that loss, we told the players to move forward and focus on the playoff game. Sunjoon gave us a good start with those two goals, but still we reminded the boys to keep attacking because we're just leading by one at halftime," MP United coach Jason Kim said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

"Today, the more aggressive team won," he added.

## LITTLE

*From Page 28*

nings after scoring three runs in the first.

The first inning ended in a tie, 3-all, as G-Boy Pangelinan had a two-RBI single and also scored off a passed ball for the Pirates-2. The Little Legals got an RBI single each from Gunner and Delbert Sablan and a run from Kaipo Dikito off a Pirates-2 miscue.

The Little Legals then added five more runs in the second and third inning, while the Pirates-2 were scoreless in the next two frames, putting the former on top, 8-3. The Little Legals went on to keep its safe distance after holding the Pirates-2 to two runs in the last three innings while scoring six more.

Lucio Aldan and Delbert Sablan pitched for the Little Legals in the last four innings with the former allowing only one hit and striking out three and the latter fanning out five and stranding three runners.

Meanwhile, Jesus Sablan starred in the Comets' victory over McDonald's, as he went 2-for-2 at bat and scored one homer, four RBIs and three runs.

Jesus' three-run triple at the bottom of the fifth inning delivered the killer blows for the Comets, which tallied seven runs in that period to gain a sizeable lead, 15-5, and put more pressure on McDonald's going into the last inning.

Before the bottom of the fifth, the Comets was just ahead by three, 8-5. McDonald's failed to score at the top of the fifth and must make 10 runs to continue the game. The losing squad fell way short of the target, as only leadoff L.J. Reyes reached home off a double from Joseph Ada. After Reyes scored and Ada moved to third, Comets closer Alvin Hocog struck out Joe Deleon Guerrero and Max Church before hitting Dillon Santos. The Comets then soon got the third and final out off a pickoff play, courtesy of Jesus Sablan at first base.

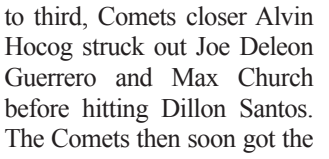
# Los Angeles could land Olympic Games, but which year?

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)— Leaders in Los Angeles will guide their International Olympic Committee guests from the Hollywood Hills to Santa Monica Beach to a construction site that will someday be a $2.6 billion NFL stadium that can also host soccer games.

If this week's tour is a success, Los Angeles will earn the chance to host its third Olympics.

But which Olympics?

Officially, Los Angeles and Paris are the only two bidders left for the 2024 Games that will be awarded in September at a meeting of Olympic leaders in Lima, Peru. On the table, however, is a proposal to use that meeting to dole out the next two Olympics—2024 and 2028—one to each city.



IOC President Thomas Bach said he wants to avoid producing so many losers in the multimillion-dollar Olympic-bidding game. Unsaid is Bach's need to avoid another bidding debacle, similar to the 2024 contest, if the rules remain the same for 2028.

The 2024 race began with five cities, but slowly, awkwardly, tapered down to two, after Rome; Hamburg, Germany; and Budapest, Hungary; all pulled out. And that's not including the embarrassment the U.S. Olympic Committee suffered when its first candidate city, Boston, stepped aside because of tepid—or, some might say, barely existent - public support.

Like Paris, Los Angeles is sticking to the party line, insisting it is in the mix only for 2024.

"Los Angeles is the right city for 2024 at this important time for the Olympic Movement and is only bidding for 2024," LA 2024 Chairman Casey Wasserman said.

The 2024-28 issue is hardly the only unpredictable factor in a bidding process that has grown more confusing, even as the number of candidates dwindled.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### MLB STANDINGS

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**

**East Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| New York | 21 | 9 | .700 | — |
| Baltimore | 21 | 10 | .677 | ½ |
| Boston | 17 | 14 | .548 | 4½ |
| Tampa Bay | 16 | 18 | .471 | 7 |
| Toronto | 12 | 20 | .375 | 10 |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cleveland | 17 | 14 | .548 | — |
| Minnesota | 15 | 14 | .517 | 1 |
| Chicago | 15 | 15 | .500 | 1½ |
| Detroit | 15 | 15 | .500 | 1½ |
| Kansas City | 11 | 20 | .355 | 6 |

**West Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Houston | 21 | 11 | .656 | — |
| Los Angeles | 16 | 18 | .471 | 6 |
| Seattle | 15 | 17 | .469 | 6 |
| Oakland | 15 | 17 | .469 | 6 |
| Texas | 13 | 20 | .394 | 8½ |

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**

**East Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Washington | 21 | 11 | .656 | — |
| New York | 15 | 16 | .484 | 5½ |
| Philadelphia | 13 | 17 | .433 | 7 |
| Miami | 13 | 18 | .419 | 7½ |
| Atlanta | 11 | 18 | .379 | 8½ |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| St. Louis | 17 | 14 | .548 | — |
| Cincinnati | 17 | 15 | .531 | ½ |
| Chicago | 16 | 15 | .516 | 1 |
| Milwaukee | 16 | 16 | .500 | 1½ |
| Pittsburgh | 14 | 18 | .438 | 3½ |

**West Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Colorado | 20 | 12 | .625 | — |
| Los Angeles | 18 | 14 | .563 | 2 |
| Arizona | 18 | 15 | .545 | 2½ |
| San Diego | 13 | 20 | .394 | 7½ |
| San Francisco | 11 | 22 | .333 | 9½ |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# 2017 Francisco M. Diaz Memorial Youth League

**PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO**

An Ol'Aces Elite player fakes off the defense of Agape Christian School's David Cai during their boys U15 division game in the 2017 Francisco M. Diaz Memorial Youth League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

NMI Rollers' Angelo Factor unloads a triple in front of Mt. Carmel School's Myles Santos.

An NMI Rollers player, left, tries to dribble past Mt. Carmel School's Matthew Richardson.

The Ol'Aces Elite's Leo Naraja faces two Agape Christian School defenders.

A Mt. Carmel School player, left, drives against an Ol'Aces defender.

A 670 Sonics PHI player pulls up for a point-blank shot during their game against Natibu Warriors.

An Ol'Aces Extreme player attempts a shot against three 670 Sonics PHI defenders.

A Mt. Carmel School player runs out of space at the baseline during their game against the Ol'Aces.

Curry's 30 lead Warriors to sweep after win over Jazz
PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Yankees pull all-nighter, beat Reds, 10-4
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# MPU keeps reign in boys U17 division

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United Football Club outclassed TanHoldings, 4-2, in the playoff match for the boys U17 division championship in the 2017 NMIFA Youth Spring League yesterday at the Hopwood Middle School Field.

Sunjoon Tenorio lifted MP United to the title victory against its perennial rival after scoring a hat-trick, while Edwin Kim made the other goal for the eventual champion.

Tenorio drilled his first goal in the eighth minute and it came off a rebound as he missed his first attempt off a pass from Joshua Abragan. The two MP United veterans then teamed up anew for the squad's second goal 14 minutes later as Abragan fed Tenorio with the former this time finding the back of the net on his first try after using his left foot to kick the ball in.

MP United took the early lead and was in control of the majority of the first half as TanHoldings went back to its gun-shy mode, opting to pass the ball more instead of gambling on taking shots. TanHoldings then finally got its needed break in the 37th minute when Mareko Tekopua was fouled on his way to attacking MP United's defense. He made the penalty kick to keep TanHoldings in the game after the first half.

In the second half, MP United was still aggressive and nearly got two goals off Tenorio's kicks in the opening minutes of that period. Despite his botched attempts, Tenorio remained persistent and his patience was rewarded in the

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MP United Football Club's Skyler Poon, left, gets tangled with TanHoldings FC's Thaiphi Austria as they battle for possession during the first half of the playoff game for the boys U17 division championship in the 2017 NMIFA Youth Spring League yesterday at the Hopwood Middle School Field.

## Little Legals, Comets finish strong

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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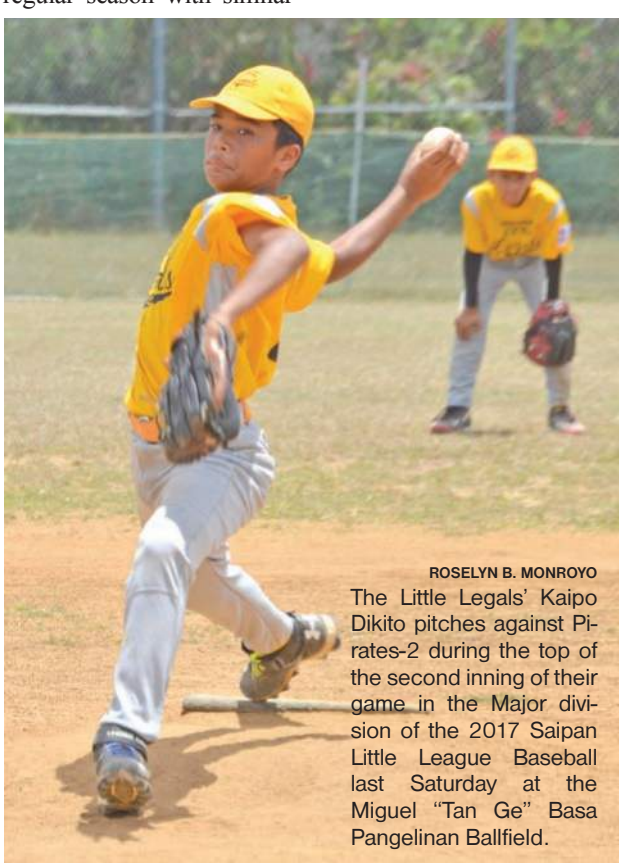
REPORTER

Last year's finalists Comets and Little Legals both won their final game in the regular season in the Major division of the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball.

The Comets topped McDonald's, 15-16, in last Saturday's curtain-raiser at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield, while the Little Legals defeated the Pirates-2 in the second match, 14-5. The Little Legals and Comets finished the regular season with similar 9-3 records for a tie for third to fourth place in the team standings behind the Talaabwogh Falcons (10-2) and NBSA Braves (9-2), who are left to fight for the pennant.

The Little Legals scored in each of the six innings to bag its ninth win and bounced back from a sorry loss to the Braves last Thursday. Pirates-2, which fell to a 6-5 card and remains in fifth place, failed to pull off an upset against the Little Legals as the former struggled in the last five in-

See LITTLE on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Little Legals' Kaipo Dikito pitches against Pirates-2 during the top of the second inning of their game in the Major division of the 2017 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

## Brilliant Star, SIS students lead qualifiers in All Schools

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The qualifiers lists for for the 2017 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Track and Field Championships in the boys and girls elementary school divisions are in with students from Brilliant Star School and Saipan International School leading the list of entries for this week's tournament.

In the boys U7's 60m run, BSS' Moshe Sikkel led the qualifiers after clocking in at 10.83 seconds in last month's time trial. Sikkel will be joined in the All Schools Meet that will run this Thursday until Saturday at the Hopwood Middle School Field by Oleai's Robert Billy and Rooney Gil, William S. Reyes' James Quindoza and Jheams Sagana, SIS' Landon Pudney, and Tinian's Jerdon Cruz.

In the boys U9 division, SIS' Christian Newman had the best qualifying time in the 60m sprint with his 9.10 seconds. He defeated three WSR runners, two from Oleai, and one from Tinian. In the boys U11, Hopwood took the Top 4 qualifiers with R.J. Narvaez leading the trial after clocking in at 8.4 seconds.

In the two other sprint events—both Sikkel and Newman lorded it over in their respective fields. Sikkel timed

See BRILLIANT on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Elementary school students compete in the boys 100m qualifying run for the 2017 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Track and Field Championships that will start this Thursday at the Hopwood Middle School Field.